

## DOCUMENTS

1. China, Russia Issue Joint Statement on New World Order: 4 July 2005 179
2. Joint Declaration of the Heads of State/Government of Brazil, China, India, Mexico and South Africa Participating in the G8 Gleneagles Summit: 7 July 2005 182
3. Joint Press Statement of the India-Pakistan Joint Working Group: 13 July 2005 184
4. Indo-US Joint Statement: 18 July 2005 186
5. Joint Statement of the Second Round of Talks between Pakistan and India on Promotion of Friendly Exchanges: 27 July 2005 189
6. India-Pakistan Joint Statement on Economic Ties: 10 August 2005 190
7. Joint Statement Issued at the Conclusion of Pakistan-Bangladesh Foreign Secretary Level Talks: 20 August 2005 191
8. Address by Indian Minister of External Affairs, K. Natwar Singh, at the Launch of Indo-Pak Parliamentarians Forum: 23 August 2005 192
9. Text of Indo-Afghan Joint Statement: 28 August 2005 194
10. Joint Press Statement of the Pakistan-India Joint Working Group on the Iran-Pakistan-India Pipeline: 9 September 2005 197
11. Joint Statement between Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, Tony Blair, and President of Pakistan, Pervez Musharraf, at the United Nations 2005 World Summit: 15 September 2005 198
12. Joint Statement by the Foreign Ministers of India and Pakistan: 11 October 2005 200
13. Address by Prime Minister of Pakistan, Mr. Shaukat Aziz, at the Inaugural Session of Thirteenth SAARC Summit: 12 November 2005 Dhaka Declaration at the 202
14. Thirteenth SAARC Summit: 13 November 2005 207
15. Speech of Professor Ekmelledin Ihsanoglu, OIC Secretary-General, at the Extraordinary Session of the Foreign Minister of the Islamic Summit Conference: 7-8 December 2005 217
16. Makkah Al-Mukarramah Declaration at the Third Session of the Extraordinary Islamic Summit Conference: 7-8 December 2005 220
17. Project of the Final Communique of the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, "Meeting the Challenges of the 21st Century,

Solidarity in Action": 7-8 December 2005	222
18. Statement by President of Pakistan, Pervez Musharraf, at the Third Extraordinary Session of the OIC Summit: 7-8 December 2005	227

# DOCUMENTS

(1 JULY – 31ST DECEMBER 2005)

## DOCUMENT NO. 1

### CHINA, RUSSIA ISSUE JOINT STATEMENT ON NEW WORLD ORDER

China and Russia here Friday issued a joint statement on a new world order in the 21st century, setting forth their common stand on major international issues, such as UN reforms, globalization, North-South cooperation, and world economy and trade.

The statement was signed by Russian President Vladimir Putin and visiting Chinese President Hu Jintao after their talks.

During their talks, the two leaders discussed ways to further enhance the strategic and cooperative partnership between China and Russia, and exchanged views on major regional and international issues.

The joint statement said the two countries are determined to strengthen their strategic coordination in international affairs and promote peace, stability and prosperity of the world.

#### **UN Reforms**

The joint statement says that UN reforms should be aimed at strengthening the world body's leading role in international affairs, improving its efficiency and increasing its potential for dealing with new challenges and threats.

UN reforms should be based on consensus through consultations, and should fully embody the common interests of the vast number of member countries. The United Nations is the world's most comprehensive, representative and authoritative organization, and both its role and function are irreplaceable, said the joint statement on a new world order in the 21st century.

The United Nations should play a leading role in global affairs and be the core for establishing and executing basic norms of international law, the statement added.

The statement calls for UN peacekeeping operations to be carried out in accordance with the tenets and principles of the UN charter.

Resolutions of the UN Security Council must be strictly abided by. Cooperation between the UN on the one hand and regional and sub regional organizations on the other should be developed, according to the joint statement.

The joint statement also calls on the world body to play a bigger role in the study of global economic and development problems.

#### **Multilateralism**

The joint statement says that countries must be allowed to decide autonomously on their internal affairs while international issues should be solved through dialogue and consultations on the basis of multilateralism.

The international community should completely renounce the mentality of confrontation and alliance; there should be no pursuit of monopoly or domination of world affairs; and countries of the world should not be divided into a leading camp and a subordinate camp, said the joint statement.

Every country must be assured of the right to choose its own path of development that fits its national realities, the right to participate in international affairs as an equal, and the right to development on an equal footing, it says.

Differences and disputes must be solved through peaceful means rather than through unilateralism or coercion. There should be no use or threatened use of force, says the joint statement.

Only on the basis of universally recognized tenets and norms of international law, and under an impartial and rational world order, can problems facing mankind be solved, says the document.

All countries should strictly observe the principles of mutual respect for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence, it says.

The joint statement believes that the world is undergoing a historic change. The establishment of a new world order will be a long and complicated process, it says.

The central task of mankind in the 21st century is to safeguard peace, stability and security for the whole mankind, and to realize full-scale coordinated development on the basis of equality, maintenance of sovereignty, mutual respect, mutual benefit and ensurance of good development prospects for future generations.

Hu arrived here on Thursday for a state visit. He will also visit Kazakhstan and Britain, where he will attend the G8 plus five summits.

### **New Security Framework**

The joint statement calls on the international community to establish a new security framework on the basis of mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality and cooperation.

The framework should have the universally recognized norms of international relations as its political foundation, and mutually beneficial cooperation and common prosperity as its economic foundation, says the joint statement.

The establishment of this framework should be based on the equal security rights of all nations while dialogue, consultation and negotiation on an equal footing should be the means for settling conflicts and maintaining peace, the joint statement says.

China and Russia support efforts to maintain global strategic stability, and the multilateral process of establishing legal systems on arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation, it says.

The two sides will work together to put the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty into effect as soon as possible and to push for the universality and effectiveness of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (INT), the Biological Weapons Convention and the Convention on the Banning of Chemical Weapons (CWC).

They also call for the peaceful use of outer space, and voice opposition to weapons deployment and arm races in outer space. They push for relevant international legislation to this end.

The two leaders believe that in face of new threats and challenges, further effective measures should be taken to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) as well as their carriers and relevant materials, according to the joint statement.

The joint statement says the two sides have decided to cooperate more closely in related international organizations and forums and expand cooperation with other like-minded countries. The issue of proliferation of WMDs should be resolved through political, diplomatic and international cooperation within the framework of international law, says the joint statement.

The two sides think that a UN-led global system should be set up to deal with new threats and challenges on the basis of the UN Charter and international law, it says.

The joint statement says regional integration is an important character in the development of the current international situation.

Open, non-exclusive regional organizations are playing a positive role in shaping a new world order.

The two countries appeal for the promotion of further economic cooperation in regional integration and for the establishment of security cooperation mechanisms.

They also voice support for regional organizations to set up ties with each other and produce an atmosphere of mutual trust and cooperation, the joint statement says.

### **Attention to Gap of Disparity**

All countries should have an equal opportunity to enjoy the profits of globalization in such fields as economy, society, science, technology, information and culture, said the joint statement, calling for mutually beneficial cooperation and common development.

Developed countries and developing ones should make efforts to eliminate discrimination in economic relations, and narrow the gap of disparity between the rich and the poor, says the joint statement.

The international community should formulate a comprehensive economic and trade regime acceptable to all, through negotiation on an equal footing. Pressure and sanctions should not be used to force a country into unilaterally making economic concessions, it says.

It also calls for respect for the history and traditions of those countries with diverse ethnic groups and their efforts to maintain national unity. Attempts to encourage secession or incite ethnic hatred within a country should not be accepted.

Diversity in cultures and civilizations should not be the source of conflict, but rather resources from which all countries can learn.

Different historic backgrounds, cultures, social and political systems, values and modes of development should not be used as pretext for interference in other countries' internal affairs, says the document.

The Chinese president arrived in Moscow Thursday for a state visit, the first leg of his three-nation tour, which will also take him to Kazakhstan and the United Kingdom.

In Kazakhstan, he will attend a Shanghai Cooperation Organization summit. Then he will fly to Scotland for an informal meeting between leaders of the Group of Eight industrialized countries and five developing nations -- China, India, Brazil, South Africa and Mexico. ■

*Source: Xinhua, 4 July 2005*

<[http://english.people.com.cn/200507/01/text20050701\\_193636.html](http://english.people.com.cn/200507/01/text20050701_193636.html)>

## DOCUMENT NO. 2

### JOINT DECLARATION OF THE HEADS OF STATE/GOVERNMENT OF BRAZIL, CHINA, INDIA, MEXICO AND SOUTH AFRICA PARTICIPATING IN THE G8 GLENEAGLES SUMMIT 7 JULY 2005

#### **Introduction**

1. We, the Heads of State and/or Government of Brazil, China, India, Mexico and South Africa thank Prime Minister Tony Blair for the invitation to participate at the G8 Gleneagles Summit.
2. At the historical juncture of the UN 60th anniversary and other important upcoming events this year, including the process of UN reforms aimed at providing a greater voice to developing countries in UN decision-making, the Gleneagles Summit is an opportunity to give stronger impetus to these processes and to send a positive message on international cooperation. This should be achieved through the promotion of multilateralism, the enhancement of North-South cooperation, as well as through a renewed commitment to sustainable development and the harnessing of the benefits of globalization for all.
3. We reaffirm the role of South-South cooperation in the context of multilateralism, and the need to strengthen it. We are fully committed to close coordination and cooperation to meet the challenges arising from globalization, and to promote the common interest of developing countries by striving to more effectively bring together our priorities and international engagement strategies. We recall the outcome of the Second South Summit held in Doha in June 2005, which recognised the importance of initiatives such as the "Action against Hunger and Poverty", and the proposal for the Southern Development Fund.

#### **Global Economic Issues**

4. More stability and certainty in the world economy are paramount, together with an international context that provides developing countries with better and more equitable opportunities. Developing countries usually bear the brunt of crises and macroeconomic imbalances in the major economies that are in a position to spur conditions for global economic growth and development.

5. The persistence of hunger and poverty, even when the means to eliminate them are available, is a major obstacle to sustainable development.
6. The mobilization of international support for raising additional financial resources for development and the fight against hunger and poverty, through the effective implementation of the agreements and commitments reached by the international community in the “Consensus of Monterrey” agreed at the Conference on Financing for Development of the United Nations, is a necessary condition to reach the targets and objectives established in the “Millennium Declaration”. Thus, we should preserve the coherence, the association, the will, and the sense of shared responsibility that are the common elements and principles that have to be adopted by every member of the international community if we are to see successful results.
7. The Millennium Development Goals cannot be timely and fully implemented with the current levels of ODA, which remain focused on short-term projects and vary according to the budgetary and policy priorities of donor countries. Therefore, donor countries should fulfil their commitments and reach the target of at least 0.7% of their GDP’s allocated to ODA. This would greatly assist the funding of national and regional initiatives to combat poverty and hunger.
8. We welcome the decision adopted by the G-8 Finance Ministers to promote further debt relief for a number of the Least Developed Countries.
9. The removal of trade barriers to products and services of interest to developing countries is essential for development, the fight against poverty and the protection of the environment. The Doha Development Agenda explicitly places the development dimension at the heart of current trade negotiations. However, more progress is needed to implement this collective commitment. There is a need to redress the development deficit which became more acute as a result of the Uruguay Round agreements.
10. The international community needs to send a clear and positive signal to the Doha round of trade negotiations that the success of the 6th Ministerial Meeting of the WTO, to be held in Hong Kong, China, in December 2005, is essential. In this connection, a fundamental requirement is to achieve substantive progress, by the end of July 2005, regarding agricultural negotiations, access to non-agricultural markets, services, trade facilitation and rules. Trade-distorting domestic support for agriculture in developed countries must be substantially reduced and all forms of export subsidies must be eliminated by a date to be agreed.
11. All members of the international community should work together for the reform of the current international economic system to make it stronger and supportive of development, including through reforming the Bretton Woods Institutions and assuring greater say to developing countries.

### **Climate Change**

12. Climate change has, and for the foreseeable future will continue to have, a profound impact on the development prospects of our societies. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol establish a regime that adequately addresses the economic, social and environmental aspects of sustainable development.
13. The international regime represented by the UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol rests on the differentiation of obligations among Parties, according to the principle of

common but differentiated responsibilities of States. Developed countries should therefore take the lead in international action to combat climate change by fully implementing their obligations of reducing emissions and of providing additional financing and the transfer of cleaner, low-emission and cost-effective technologies to developing countries.

14. In line with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol do not provide for any quantitative targets for emission reductions for developing countries but still require these countries to implement appropriate policies and measures to address climate change, taking into account their specific circumstances and with the support of developed countries.

15. The Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) incorporated in the Kyoto Protocol provides an important and innovative framework for the participation of developing countries in international efforts to address climate change. In addition, our countries have already carried out mitigation and adaptation efforts that precede and complement those related to the CDM.

16. The Gleneagles Summit should recognize that the Convention establishes economic and social development and poverty eradication as the first and overriding priorities of developing countries. As such, there is an urgent need for the development and financing of policies, measures and mechanisms to adapt to the inevitable adverse effects of climate change that are being borne mainly by the poor.

17. Changes in the unsustainable production and consumption patterns in the industrialized countries must be implemented. Energy efficiency and renewable energy sources, such as solar, wind and hydro-electrical power, and bio-fuels such as ethanol and biodiesel, offer opportunities that deserve careful consideration.

18. We urge the G-8 leaders and the international community to devise innovative mechanisms for the transfer of technology and to provide new and additional financial resources to developing countries under the UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol. For this purpose, we propose a new paradigm for international cooperation, focused on the achievement of concrete and properly assessed results, taking fully into account the perspective and needs of developing countries. Such a paradigm must ensure that technologies with a positive impact on climate change are both accessible and affordable to developing countries and will require a concerted effort to address questions related to intellectual property rights. Additional financial resources, apart from those already available through ODA, should be directed to developing countries to enable them to access critical technologies. Collaborative research for new technologies, involving both developed and developing countries, also needs to be encouraged. ■

Gleneagles, 7 July 2005

<<http://meaindia.nic.in/speech/2005/07/07jd01.htm>>

### DOCUMENT NO. 3

## JOINT PRESS STATEMENT OF THE INDIA-PAKISTAN JOINT WORKING GROUP

The first meeting of the India-Pakistan Joint Working Group (JWG) on cooperation in transnational pipelines was held in New Delhi on 12th 13th July, 2005. The Indian

delegation was led by Shri S.C. Tripathi, Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum Natural Gas, while the Pakistani delegation was led by Mr. Ahmad Waqar, Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum Natural Resources. Besides having substantial delegation level discussions, the Pakistani delegation called on H.E. Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar, Indian Minister of Petroleum Natural Gas and Panchayati Raj, who conveyed the firm support of the Government of India to the Iran-Pakistan-India Pipeline Project and other transnational pipeline proposals under consideration. He urged the two delegations to prepare a time frame in respect of various items pertaining to the project.

The discussions between the two delegations were marked by a positive and constructive approach and were held in an atmosphere of candour and mutual understanding. Both sides conveyed their serious commitment to address various issues pertaining to the project so as to maintain the momentum of the dialogue. They agreed that dialogue on the basis of bilateral joint working groups between India, Pakistan and Iran, interspersed with periodic interactions at Ministerial level, provided a satisfactory mechanism to address and resolve all matters pertaining to the project.

The two delegations had an in-depth discussion on the technical, financial, commercial and legal aspects of the project. The two sides agreed that in order to realize a safe and secure world class project, arrangements would need to be provided for in every aspect of the project, including technical, commercial, financial and legal matters.

The two sides agreed that once basic issues pertaining to the project had been satisfactorily resolved between the three countries concerned, they would enter into a Framework Agreement. In this regard, it was agreed that the Indian side would submit a draft text to the Pakistani side before the next meeting of the JWG. The two sides agreed that they shared an immediate commonality of interest in regard to the technical aspects of the project such as the size and specifications of the pipeline, the quality of gas, the quantum of gas required by the two countries and the build up period. It was agreed that technical experts of the two countries would meet quickly in order to harmonize the position of the two sides in this area to achieve a project of international standard.

The proposed pipeline routes and delivery point were also discussed. It was agreed that these would be established on the basis of techno economic considerations.

The two sides agreed that the price of the gas as well as the project structure were of crucial importance. Various approaches to determine a reasonable price of gas as also various options pertaining to project structure were discussed by the two delegations. It was agreed that these matters would be pursued in greater detail at subsequent meetings of the JWG.

The two sides agreed on the crucial importance of urgently appointing their respective financial advisory consortium to advise on project structure and related technical, financial, commercial and legal matters. They agreed that every effort would be made to appoint the respective financial advisory consortium at the earliest.

The two sides noted with satisfaction that each of them had initiated the process of joining the Energy Charter, initially with Observer status. They agreed that

in the various inter-governmental agreements entered into by them in respect of the project, the provisions of the Energy Charter would be referred to.

In order to carry the process forward, the two sides agreed that the next meeting of the JWG would take place in Islamabad by the end of August 2005. The two sides discussed the other pipeline proposals under consideration by them, i.e. the Turkmenistan Afghanistan Pakistan (TAP) pipeline and the Gulf South Asia (GUSA) pipeline. They noted that India had been invited to attend the next meeting of the Steering Committee of the TAP Project. The Pakistani side briefed the Indian side on the latest developments pertaining to the project as also on their recent discussions pertaining to the GUSA Project. ■

13 July 2005

<[http://www.pakistan.gov.pk/foreignaffairs-ministry/news-des.jsp?MinID=12&div=foreignaffairs-ministry&file=mofa13072005\\_274.xml&path=foreignaffairs-ministry/](http://www.pakistan.gov.pk/foreignaffairs-ministry/news-des.jsp?MinID=12&div=foreignaffairs-ministry&file=mofa13072005_274.xml&path=foreignaffairs-ministry/)>

## DOCUMENT NO. 4

### INDO-US JOINT STATEMENT

The following is the text of Indo-US Joint Statement issued after the delegation-level meeting between the Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh and the US President Mr. George W. Bush, in Washington DC on July 18, 2005.

"Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and President Bush today declare their resolve to transform the relationship between their countries and establish a global partnership. As leaders of nations committed to the values of human freedom, democracy and rule of law, the new relationship between India and the United States will promote stability, democracy, prosperity and peace throughout the world. It will enhance our ability to work together to provide global leadership in areas of mutual concern and interest.

Building on their common values and interests, the two leaders resolve:

- To create an international environment conducive to promotion of democratic values, and to strengthen democratic practices in societies which wish to become more open and pluralistic.
- To combat terrorism relentlessly. They applaud the active and vigorous counterterrorism cooperation between the two countries and support more international efforts in this direction. Terrorism is a global scourge and the one we will fight everywhere. The two leaders strongly affirm their commitment to the conclusion by September of a UN comprehensive convention against international terrorism.

The Prime Minister's visit coincides with the completion of the Next Steps in Strategic Partnership (NSSP) initiative, launched in January 2004. The two leaders agree that this provides the basis for expanding bilateral activities and commerce in space, civil nuclear energy and dual-use technology.

Drawing on their mutual vision for the U.S.-India relationship, and our joint objectives as strong long-standing democracies, the two leaders agree on the following:

#### **For the Economy**

- Revitalize the U.S.-India Economic Dialogue and launch a CEO Forum to harness private sector energy and ideas to deepen the bilateral economic relationship
- Support and accelerate economic growth in both countries through greater trade, investment, and technology collaboration.
- Promote modernization of India's infrastructure as a prerequisite for the continued growth of the Indian economy. As India enhances its investment climate, opportunities for investment will increase.
- Launch a U.S.-India Knowledge Initiative on Agriculture focused on promoting teaching, research, service and commercial linkages.

#### **For Energy and the Environment**

- Strengthen energy security and promote the development of stable and efficient energy markets in India with a view to ensuring adequate, affordable energy supplies and conscious of the need for sustainable development. These issues will be addressed through the U.S.-India Energy Dialogue.
- Agree on the need to promote the imperatives of development and safeguarding the environment, commit to developing and deploying cleaner, more efficient, affordable, and diversified energy technologies.

#### **For Democracy and Development**

- Develop and support, through the new U.S.-India Global Democracy Initiative in countries that seek such assistance, institutions and resources that strengthen the foundations that make democracies credible and effective. India and the U.S. will work together to strengthen democratic practices and capacities and contribute to the new U.N. Democracy Fund.
- Commit to strengthen cooperation and combat HIV/AIDS at a global level through an initiative that mobilizes private sector and government resources, knowledge, and expertise.

#### **For Non-Proliferation and Security**

- Express satisfaction at the New Framework for the U.S.-India Defense Relationship as a basis for future cooperation, including in the field of defense technology.
- Commit to play a leading role in international efforts to prevent the proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction. The U.S. welcomed the adoption by India of legislation on WMD (Prevention of Unlawful Activities Bill).

- Launch a new U.S.-India Disaster Relief Initiative that builds on the experience of the Tsunami Core Group, to strengthen cooperation to prepare for and conduct disaster relief operations.

### **For High-Technology and Space**

- Sign a Science and Technology Framework Agreement, building on the U.S.-India High-Technology Cooperation Group (HTCG), to provide for joint research and training, and the establishment of public-private partnerships.
- Build closer ties in space exploration, satellite navigation and launch, and in the commercial space arena through mechanisms such as the U.S.-India Working Group on Civil Space Cooperation.
- Building on the strengthened non-proliferation commitments undertaken in the NSSP, to remove certain Indian organizations from the Department of Commerce's Entity List.

Recognizing the significance of civilian nuclear energy for meeting growing global energy demands in a cleaner and more efficient manner, the two leaders discussed India's plans to develop its civilian nuclear energy program.

President Bush conveyed his appreciation to the Prime Minister over India's strong commitment to preventing WMD proliferation and stated that as a responsible state with advanced nuclear technology, India should acquire the same benefits and advantages as other such states. The President told the Prime Minister that he will work to achieve full civil nuclear energy cooperation with India as it realizes its goals of promoting nuclear power and achieving energy security. The President would also seek agreement from Congress to adjust U.S. laws and policies, and the United States will work with friends and allies to adjust international regimes to enable full civil nuclear energy cooperation and trade with India, including but not limited to expeditious consideration of fuel supplies for safeguarded nuclear reactors at Tarapur. In the meantime, the United States will encourage its partners to also consider this request expeditiously. India has expressed its interest in ITER and a willingness to contribute. The United States will consult with its partners considering India's participation. The United States will consult with the other participants in the Generation IV International Forum with a view toward India's inclusion.

The Prime Minister conveyed that for his part, India would reciprocally agree that it would be ready to assume the same responsibilities and practices and acquire the same benefits and advantages as other leading countries with advanced nuclear technology, such as the United States. These responsibilities and practices consist of identifying and separating civilian and military nuclear facilities and programs in a phased manner and filing a declaration regarding its civilians facilities with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA); taking a decision to place voluntarily its civilian nuclear facilities under IAEA safeguards; signing and adhering to an Additional Protocol with respect to civilian nuclear facilities; continuing India's unilateral moratorium on nuclear testing; working with the United States for the conclusion of a multilateral Fissile Material Cut Off Treaty; refraining from transfer of enrichment and reprocessing technologies to states that do not have them and

supporting international efforts to limit their spread; and ensuring that the necessary steps have been taken to secure nuclear materials and technology through comprehensive export control legislation and through harmonization and adherence to Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) and Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) guidelines.

The President welcomed the Prime Minister's assurance. The two leaders agreed to establish a working group to undertake on a phased basis in the months ahead the necessary actions mentioned above to fulfill these commitments. The President and Prime Minister also agreed that they would review this progress when the President visits India in 2006.

The two leaders also reiterated their commitment that their countries would play a leading role in international efforts to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear, chemical, biological and radiological weapons.

In light of this closer relationship, and the recognition of India's growing role in enhancing regional and global security, the Prime Minister and the President agree that international institutions must fully reflect changes in the global scenario that have taken place since 1945. The President reiterated his view that international institutions are going to have to adapt to reflect India's central and growing role. The two leaders state their expectations that India and the United States will strengthen their cooperation in global forums.

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh thanks President Bush for the warmth of his reception and the generosity of his hospitality. He extends an invitation to President Bush to visit India at his convenience and the President accepts that invitation." ■

18 July 2005

<<http://www.hindu.com/thehindu/nic/indousjoint.htm>>

## DOCUMENT NO. 5

### JOINT STATEMENT OF THE SECOND ROUND OF TALKS BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND INDIA ON PROMOTION OF FRIENDLY EXCHANGES

The second round of talks between Pakistan and India on Promotion of Friendly Exchanges in various fields was held in Islamabad on 26-27 July 2005 under the framework of the Composite Dialogue in a friendly atmosphere. The Pakistani delegation was led by Mr. Jalil Abbas, Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth Affairs Division. Mrs. Neena Ranjan, Secretary, Ministry of Culture, led the Indian delegation.

The two delegations held detailed and constructive discussions on the proposals already exchanged during the last round of talks in New Delhi in 2004 and the fresh proposals tabled during the meeting. The talks covered the fields of art, culture, sports, tourism, youth affairs, education, media and archaeology.

The two delegations agreed to initiate discussions to revive the 1988 Bilateral Cultural Agreement. It was agreed to expand the 1974 Bilateral Protocol on

Visits to Religious Shrines to increase the number of shrines in both countries as also the number of pilgrims.

The Indian delegation also called on Mr. Muhammad Ajmal Khan, Minister for Culture, Sports and Youth Affairs, of Government of Pakistan.■

Islamabad, 27 July 2005

<[http://www.pakistan.gov.pk/foreignaffairs-ministry/news-des.jsp?MinID=12&div=foreignaffairs-ministry&file=mofa27072005\\_328.xml&path=foreignaffairs-ministry/](http://www.pakistan.gov.pk/foreignaffairs-ministry/news-des.jsp?MinID=12&div=foreignaffairs-ministry&file=mofa27072005_328.xml&path=foreignaffairs-ministry/)>

## DOCUMENT NO. 6

### INDIA-PAKISTAN JOINT STATEMENT ON ECONOMIC TIES

New Delhi, Aug 10 (IANS) Following is the joint statement issued at the end of talks between India and Pakistan on enhancing economic cooperation where they recognized the scope for further increase in two-way trade, among other issues:

"The Second Round of India-Pakistan talks on economic and commercial cooperation within the framework of the composite dialogue were held here on Aug 9-10, 2005. The Indian Delegation was led by commerce secretary S.N. Menon. The Pakistan delegation was led by the acting secretary ministry of commerce, Syed Asif Shah.

"The discussions were held in a cordial and constructive atmosphere. The two sides recognized the scope for further increase in bilateral trade and discussed further measures to enhance mutually beneficial economic and commercial cooperation.

"The two sides agreed on the following:

- Aeronautical talks would be held in Pakistan in September 2005 to review the existing air services agreement.
- A bilateral meeting to review the shipping protocol of 1975 would be held in Pakistan in September 2005.
- The Second Meeting of the Joint Study Group (JSG) would be convened at an early date in Islamabad. The JSG meeting would be preceded by the meeting of the sub-groups on non-tariff barriers (NTBs) and customs cooperation and trade facilitation to formulate recommendations for consideration by the JSG.

"The two sides recalled the decision taken during the visit of the Prime Minister of Pakistan (Shaukat Aziz) to India in November 2004 to open branches of scheduled banks in each other's country and agreed that requests for opening of bank branches in both the countries would be processed expeditiously to facilitate bilateral trade relations.

"Both sides also noted the progress achieved in concluding a memorandum of understanding between the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) to benefit from each other's experiences.

"Both sides expressed the hope that Fibre Optic link between Amritsar and Lahore would be established and operationalized at the earliest." ■

*Indo-Asian News Service*, 10 August 2005

<<http://www.eians.com/stories/2005/08/10/10sal.shtml>>

## DOCUMENT NO. 7

### JOINT STATEMENT ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF PAKISTAN-BANGLADESH FOREIGN SECRETARY LEVEL TALKS

The Third Round of annual Foreign Secretary-level bilateral consultations between Pakistan and Bangladesh was held on 19-20 August 2005. Mr. Riaz Mohamed Khan, Foreign Secretary of Pakistan and Mr. Hemayetuddin, Foreign Secretary of Bangladesh led their respective delegations.

The two Foreign Secretaries discussed and reviewed the entire gamut of bilateral relations as well as regional and international issues. They expressed satisfaction at the excellent relations that exist between the two brotherly countries and agreed to further expand economic, commercial, trade and investment cooperation. Both sides stressed the need for organizing single country trade fairs in each others important cities on a regular basis and frequent exchange of visits of business delegations for expansion of trade between the two countries. The two Foreign Secretaries stressed the need for enhanced contacts between the businessmen and entrepreneurs of the two countries and underscored the importance of holding regular meetings of the Pakistan Bangladesh Joint Economic Commission (JEC) and the Joint Business Council (JBC).

The two sides agreed to enhance people to people contacts and cultural exchanges. In this context, the two Foreign Secretaries discussed the existing visa regimes and it was felt that the current visa policy should be reflective of the close and friendly relations between the two countries. It was agreed that necessary measures should be taken to further streamline the existing consular procedures. Both sides reiterated their resolve to make efforts to curb the menace of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

The Bangladesh side raised the issues of repatriation of stranded Pakistanis and division of assets. The Pakistan side explained its position.

The two sides agreed to continue to cooperate closely at the UN and other international and regional fora for the promotion of international peace and security, and for the reform of the UN System, based on the principle of sovereign equality.

The two sides also stressed on the need for accelerating economic development of the South Asian Region and reiterated their commitment to further strengthening of the SAARC process. The Bangladesh side expressed its admiration for the valuable leadership role of Pakistan as the current Chair of SAARC. The two sides expressed their determination to work closely for the successful holding of the 13th SAARC Summit to be held in Dhaka in November 2005. The Pakistan side reiterated its full support to Bangladesh in this regard.

While exchanging views on the OIC matters, the two sides agreed to work together to further strengthen the Organization, particularly with respect to conveying to the world the message of peace and fraternity of Islam. In this context, the Bangladesh side expressed its appreciation of and support to President General Pervez Musharraf's initiative of Enlightened Moderation.

During his visit, the Bangladesh Foreign Secretary called on Their Excellencies the President, the Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister of Pakistan. The Bangladesh Foreign Secretary also met the Acting Commerce Secretary of Pakistan.

The Bangladesh Foreign Secretary conveyed his deep appreciation for the warm welcome and generous hospitality extended to him and his delegation. He also extended an invitation to the Pakistan Foreign Secretary to visit Dhaka for the next round of the Pakistan-Bangladesh Foreign Secretary-level consultations. The invitation was accepted and dates for the visit would be finalized through diplomatic channels. ■

Islamabad, 20 August 2005

<[## DOCUMENT NO. 8](http://www.pakistan.gov.pk/foreignaffairs-ministry/news-des.jsp?div=foreignaffairs-ministry&file=pr_372_23082005.xml&path=foreignaffairs-ministry//></a></p>
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### ADDRESS BY INDIAN MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS K. NATWAR SINGH AT THE LAUNCH OF INDO-PAK PARLIAMENTARIANS FORUM

I extend a warm welcome to the distinguished Members of Parliament from Pakistan who have traveled to India for this meeting of the Indo-Pak Parliamentarians Forum.

The fact that such a forum has been created and is meeting in New Delhi with the participation of many esteemed parliamentarians from both countries is in itself a reflection of the change in the climate in our bilateral relations.

It is also a manifestation of the overwhelming desire among people on both sides of the border for peace and friendship.

There is a great reservoir of goodwill on both sides, based on our affinities and commonalities. We need to build further on this foundation. Greater contact among civil society in our region, particularly among the elected representatives of the people, would open the doors for a better appreciation of our respective viewpoints and in bridging our differences.

It would also contribute towards the efforts of the Governments to build a durable structure of peace, stability and cooperation in South Asia. In fact, civil society has been a major driving force in bringing about the positive changes in our relations.

Our people have shown us the way forward to peace and friendship. Our conscious policy has been to be "people centric" and to promote people-to-people exchanges across the spectrum.

India, as the largest democracy in the world, takes pride in her democratic traditions and institutions. The will of the people is of paramount importance and must be harnessed to transform our relations.

Governments need to play a facilitating role in ensuring that the aspirations of our people are met. We need to work towards the consolidation of democratic trends and institutions in our region and across the globe.

Parliamentarians have a critical role to play in this process. I am, therefore, delighted that such an exchange of ideas has now become a reality in our region. I hope that the formation of this Forum will not only serve to bring our two countries closer but also promote democratic values and institutions throughout our region.

We, in India, attach great importance to the ongoing process of engagement and confidence building with Pakistan. We are in the midst of a serious, constructive and purposeful dialogue process and this has yielded tangible benefits to the people of both countries. We can say with a measure of satisfaction that we are moving in the right direction and have discovered several areas of convergence and cooperation.

The last one year has witnessed remarkable and positive developments which, I believe, have brought us on to the threshold of a new phase in our bilateral relations. Diplomatic links have been normalized. The Srinagar-Muzaffarabad bus service was operationalised on April 7 this year.

We are also working actively to operationalise other transportation links, including the bus service from Amritsar to Lahore and Nankana Sahib and the rail link from Munnabao to Khokhrapar.

We are also looking at opening the Poonch- Rawalkot and the Kargil-Skardu routes. We have announced an increase in the number of religious shrines for pilgrimages by Pakistani nationals and hope for similar gestures from the Government of Pakistan. These increased linkages will not only encourage greater contact among our people, but would also create awareness of the need to transcend borders for the sake of our peoples' prosperity and well-being. We must work towards a situation where borders, even in our part of the world, begin to matter less and less and serve to unite rather than divide people.

As a measure of goodwill and our commitment to normalizing and strengthening relations, we have unilaterally liberalized the visa regime for Pakistani nationals to travel to India, including a system of visas on arrival for certain select categories such as senior citizens and minors. We hope to be able to implement group tours shortly. We have already put in place a special visa regime for Pakistani students to study in Indian educational institutions. We look forward to the reopening of the Consulates in Mumbai and Karachi at the earliest as this would greatly contribute towards increasing interaction among our people. The Governments could play a major role in encouraging people to people exchanges and in defining new parameters in our relationship.

Complex and longstanding issues that have defied solution for decades and in which strong public sentiment is invested, stand very little chance of being tackled successfully in an atmosphere of suspicion and hostility. Such issues need to be dealt in tandem with a confidence building process that enlarges the public constituency for peace and friendship on both sides. We believe that CBMs are integral to the peace process. We need to have an incremental step-by-step approach towards resolving our problems. We need to be practical and realistic and must tread

cautiously yet firmly on the path towards peace. We cannot expect dramatic results in such a short period and, therefore, we need to renew our commitment towards continued engagement for as long as it takes to find solutions in an amicable manner through sustained dialogue.

There is enormous potential in our relations with Pakistan and we are determined to enhance the areas of interaction as well as to build on the momentum already achieved. We attach immense importance to expanding bilateral economic and commercial cooperation. We need to jointly work towards tackling the common challenges of poverty and development in our region for the sake of the collective well being of our people. India has emerged as one of the largest and fastest growing economies in the world. We need to exploit our economic complementarities and build on the mutual enthusiasm of our business communities. It is imperative that we chart out a road map in order to given a solid economic foundation to the peace process. The opportunities are vast and exciting and must be seized. All we need is will and determination to move ahead in this direction. I am happy to inform you that Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, is likely to meet President Musharraf in New York next month. Such regular high level exchanges between our two countries will only help further strengthen and deepen our expanding ties.

Here I would like to underline that terrorism has indeed become a serious menace not just to our two countries but also to the entire world. The bilateral dialogue process hinges on Pakistan adhering to its commitment not to allow any territory under its control to be used for cross-border terrorism against India. Irrespective of what form terrorism takes or what factors motivate this or who resort to perpetrate violent acts against innocent people, terrorism has to be condemned without any reservations. This menace has to be rooted out from our neighbourhood. Your role in this regard would be valuable.

We sincerely seek peace and friendship with Pakistan. We hope that the coming months would witness wider and freer exchanges among our people so that the process becomes irreversible and we can build better understanding and mutual trust as we walk along the path of peace and good neighbourly relations. Our people want us to put an end to conflict and confrontation, to bury the past and to look ahead with hope and determination into a future full of progress and prosperity, peace and stability and friendship and cooperation between our two countries. As representatives of the people and influential members of civil society, I invite you to play a pioneering role in fulfilling the destiny of peace and prosperity that our people are entitled to. ■

New Delhi, 23 August 2005

<<http://meaindia.nic.in/cgi-bin/db2www/meaxpsite/coverpage.d2w/coverpg?sec=ss&filename=specch/2005/08/23ss01.htm>>

## DOCUMENT NO. 9

### TEXT OF INDO-AFGHAN JOINT STATEMENT

*Following is the text of the Indo-Afghan Joint Statement after talks between Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Afghan President Hamid Karzai in Kabul*

At the invitation of His Excellency Hamid Karzai, President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, His Excellency Dr. Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister of the Republic of India, is currently paying a state visit to the Islamic Republic (28-29 August, 2005)

During the visit, the two leaders held talks on a broad range of bilateral issues as well as regional and international issues of common concern. They expressed satisfaction at the progress in bilateral relations since President Hamid Karzai's visit to India (23-25 February, 2005) and agreed to take this relationship into a new stage of partnership. They affirmed that India and Afghanistan enjoy a warm and friendly relationship underpinned by historical ties and cultural links. The time tested friendship between the people of the two countries has survived many challenges and is today based on a shared commitment to the ideals of democracy, peace and security.

India remains fully supportive to the goal of a sovereign, stable, democratic and prosperous Afghanistan. Both leaders agreed that such an Afghanistan is also necessary for peace, security and stability in the region. The two leaders condemned global terrorism as a threat to democracy and declared that there can be no compromise with those who resort to terrorism. They reiterated their commitments to work together to ensure that Afghanistan would never again become a safe haven for terrorism and extremism.

India has admired the courageous steps taken by the Afghan government and the people under the leadership of President Hamid Karzai towards the restoration of peace and the adoption of a democratic polity while addressing the challenge of economic development and reconstruction.

President Hamid Karzai thanked India for its demonstrated commitments to Afghanistan by providing more than USD 500 million for projects in the area of infrastructure, humanitarian assistance and institutional and human resource development.

Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh reaffirmed India's continued commitment and pledged an additional USD 50 million assistance to Afghanistan.

In the presence of Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh and President Hamid Karzai, bilateral cooperation agreements in the areas of Agriculture and Health were signed. A new initiative on 'Small Developmental Projects' has been launched to work with local communities in development programmes.

Following on a pilot project undertaken by the Confederation of Indian Industry in pursuance to President Karzai's visit to India earlier this year, the two governments agreed to launch a 'Skill Building Initiative' in Afghanistan in partnership with the Confederation of Indian Industry and the United Nations. Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh announced that India will adopt 100 villages in Afghanistan to promote integrated rural developments by introducing solar electrification and rain water harvesting using technologies that have been developed and successfully demonstrated in India.

While announcing a gift of 1000 sewing machines to the Ministry of Women's Affairs, it was agreed that India would assist in establishing a Women's Vocational Training Centre in Kabul.

Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh welcomed President Hamid Karzai's suggestion to make greater use of Indian institutions for training of Afghans. In order

to accelerate the human resource development process, Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh announced 500 scholarships for Afghan students for university education and in addition 500 short-term training fellowships under the ITEC Programme for Afghan men and women. A symbol of long-standing cooperation between the two countries in the field of education is the 102-year-old Habibia school which was destroyed in the war and after its rebuilding by India, will be jointly inaugurated by Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh and President Hamid Karzai.

To support Afghanistan's steps towards democracy, both countries will expand their cooperation in building of democratic institutions, infrastructure and human capacity.

India welcomes the forthcoming Parliamentary elections which mark a significant milestone in this process and has already set up dedicated training programmes for Afghan officials.

Tomorrow, Baba-e-Milat His Majesty Mohammad Zahir Shah will lay the foundation stone of the new Parliament building in the presence of Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh and President Hamid Karzai at Darul Aman. India has already committed USD 25 million for the construction of the Parliament.

President Hamid Karzai shared his vision of restoring Afghanistan's historic role as a land bridge between Central Asia and Indian sub-continent and the initiatives taken in rebuilding its road network.

Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh endorsed this vision as an important step for promoting regional cooperation by encouraging, both trade and people-to-people contact among the countries of the region.

In this context, President Hamid Karzai conveyed Afghanistan's interest in seeking closer links with SAARC.

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh welcomed this initiative and affirmed India's support for Afghanistan's engagement with SAARC.

The two leaders endorsed the need for greater consultation and cooperation in a future project of a Turkmenistan gas pipeline to India that would pass through Afghanistan and Pakistan.

The two leaders reaffirmed that Afghanistan and India have a common interest in reinvigorating the past ties and developing a new partnership for the 21st century.

The two leaders emphasised the importance of regular high level exchange between the two countries. Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh extended an invitation to President Hamid Karzai to visit India at a mutually convenient time. President Hamid Karzai conveyed his acceptance to the invitation. ■

28 Auhgust 2005

<<http://us.rediff.com/news/2005/aug/28afghan5.htm?headline=Joint~Statement>>

**DOCUMENT No. 10****JOINT PRESS STATEMENT OF THE PAKISTAN-INDIA JOINT WORKING GROUP ON THE IRAN-PAKISTAN-INDIA PIPELINE**

The second meeting of the Pakistan-India Joint Working Group on cooperation on the Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) pipeline project was held in Islamabad, on 8-9 September, 2005. The Pakistani delegation was led by Mr. Ahmad Waqar, Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum Natural Resources, while the Indian delegation was led by Mr. S.C. Tripathi, Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum Natural Gas.

During the visit, the Indian delegation called on H.E. Mr. Amanullah Khan Jadoon, Minister for Petroleum Natural Resources, and H. E. Mr. Muhammad Naseer Mangal, Minister of State for Petroleum Natural Resources. The Ministers reaffirmed to the Indian delegation the commitment of the Government of Pakistan to the IPI project and other transnational pipeline projects under consideration. Mr. S.C. Tripathi reiterated that Government of India was also strongly supportive of these transnational gas pipeline proposals, which were crucial for the energy security and economic development of the two countries.

The discussions between the two delegations were conducted in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and cooperation with a view to carry forward the momentum of the dialogue to realize the projects at the earliest.

The Pakistani side briefed the Indian delegation on the status in regard to the appointment of their financial advisory consortium for the project. The Indian side said that it had appointed an international company, M/s Ernst Young, as financial consultant and had initiated action to appoint technical and legal consultants who would support the financial consultant.

The two sides noted with satisfaction that there had been considerable progress in addressing the various issues pertaining to the IPI project since the first meeting of the Pakistan-India JWG in New Delhi in July, 2005. The Pakistan Government had decided to join the Energy Charter Treaty (ECT) as an Observer, while the Indian proposal for joining the ECT as Observer was under process for approval.

The Indian side informed that they had held discussions with Iran in August, 2005, after which the Iranian side had provided the technical portion of the pre-feasibility report prepared by the Iranian consultants for the project.

The JWG examined in detail the various technical, financial, commercial and legal aspects of the project. The main points discussed in the JWG meeting included Gas Reserve Certification and Allocation, Gas Quantity and Build-up, Gas Quality, System Configuration and Project Structure. Other matters discussed were pipeline routing, delivery points, transportation tariff, transit fee, capital and operating costs and pipeline security etc.

Both sides reiterated that the IP pipeline project should be a safe and secure world class project. Accordingly, it was agreed that every effort would be made to adopt best international practices and standards. At the same time, international standards relating to health, safety and the environment would also be adopted in the implementation of the project.

It was agreed that the Indian side would provide the Pakistan side drafts of the Tripartite Agreement which would be discussed in the next meeting of the JWG.

The two sides noted the progress relating to gas reserve certification in respect of the TAP pipeline Project which India has proposed to join as an Observer. With regard to the GUSA Pipeline Project, the Indian side conveyed that they had formally approached the Qatar Government to join the project.

Both sides noted that the Indian Minister for Petroleum Natural Gas and Panchayati Raj, H.E. Mr. Mani Shankar Aiyar, had invited H.E. Mr. Amanullah Khan Jadoon, Minister for Petroleum Natural Resources, to visit India in October, 2005.

The visit of H.E. Mr. Mani Shankar Aiyar, Minister for Petroleum Natural Gas and Panchayati Raj, Government of India may then be planned to Pakistan in early December, 2005. It was agreed that these visits would accelerate the pace of progress pertaining to the IPI and other transnational pipeline projects.

The following actionable were agreed by the two sides:

- a) The next meeting of JWG may be held in New Delhi in the 2nd week of November, 2005; and
- b) Finalization of the Tripartite Framework Agreement by December, 2005. ■

Islamabad, 9 September 2005

<[http://www.pakistan.gov.pk/foreignaffairs-ministry/news-des.jsp?MinID=12&div=foreignaffairs-ministry&file=mofa090905\\_410.xml&path=foreignaffairs-ministry/](http://www.pakistan.gov.pk/foreignaffairs-ministry/news-des.jsp?MinID=12&div=foreignaffairs-ministry&file=mofa090905_410.xml&path=foreignaffairs-ministry/)>

## DOCUMENT NO. 11

### JOINT STATEMENT BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, TONY BLAIR AND PRESIDENT OF PAKISTAN PERVEZ MUSHARRAF

At the United Nations 2005 World Summit the PM and the Pakistan President signed this agreement.

#### **Read the Joint Statement in Full**

1. His Excellency General Pervez Musharraf, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Rt. Hon. Tony Blair, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom met in New York on 14 September 2005. At the conclusion of their talks, they issued this joint statement.
2. The President and the Prime Minister reviewed the Partnership for Peace and Prosperity that they launched at their meeting in London in December 2004. They noted the continuing importance of the strategic ties between their two countries. They agreed to work towards further strengthening these ties.
3. The President and the Prime Minister welcomed the close cooperation between their governments in countering extremism and terrorism, and agreed to enhance this cooperation. The Prime Minister highlighted the steps taken by the British Government since the bombs in London on 7 July 2005. He emphasised that the

United Kingdom remains a tolerant society in which the Pakistani origin community plays an important part.

4. The President highlighted the steps that his government is taking to tackle extremism, including through registration and regulation of madrassas, banning extremist organisations and detaining known extremists. The President and the Prime Minister noted the efforts of the two governments to counter terrorism.

5. The President and the Prime Minister agreed that the international community must work through the UN to agree a definition of terrorist acts, and work collectively to find a common response to the threats of terrorism and extremism. They agreed on the need to combat social, economic and political exclusion in societies as well as work towards cultural and religious tolerance.

6. The President detailed how he hopes to pursue his vision of "Enlightened Moderation" in the Muslim world including through the OIC Summit in December. The Prime Minister expressed his hope that the OIC Summit would offer an opportunity to build on the Amman Message agreed between religious scholars in Jordan in July.

7. The President and the Prime Minister agreed on the need to intensify their efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. The President warmly welcomed the United Kingdom's commitment of up to £236m over three years in development assistance to help support Pakistan's long-term development.

8. The President and the Prime Minister reaffirmed their commitment to the Commonwealth Harare principles. President Musharraf reaffirmed his commitment to continuing the process of democratisation in Pakistan.

9. The Prime Minister congratulated President Musharraf on the bold and sustained efforts made by Pakistan and India to resolve all of the outstanding issues between the two countries, including over Jammu and Kashmir. He welcomed the ongoing Composite Dialogue process, and President Musharraf's joint declaration with Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh in April that the peace process was now irreversible. He also welcomed their agreement to continue the dialogue in a sincere, purposeful and forward looking manner for a final settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir issue. The President and Prime Minister agreed that resolution of differences between India and Pakistan, including over Jammu and Kashmir, would help to establish lasting peace and prosperity in the region.

10. The President and the Prime Minister looked forward to the forthcoming Parliamentary elections to be held in Afghanistan on 18 September, and reiterated their joint commitment to support the government of President Karzai as it works to develop a stable, peaceful, democratic and prosperous Afghanistan. To this end the Prime Minister emphasised the United Kingdom's long-term commitment to Afghanistan. The President undertook to continue to deepen and intensify Pakistan's cooperation on security issues with Afghanistan.

11. The President and the Prime Minister expressed their concerns at increased narcotics production in Afghanistan and agreed to continue their cooperation in preventing the growth and processing of opiates in the region, and their trafficking and abuse worldwide.

12. The Prime Minister welcomed the recent meeting between the Pakistani and Israeli Foreign Ministers and looked forward to continued progress in the Middle East Peace Process.

13. The President and the Prime Minister agreed that the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iraq must be preserved. They welcomed the recent agreement in Iraq on a draft constitution and urged all Iraqis to take part in the forthcoming referendum and elections. They emphasised the importance of the peaceful completion of the transitional process as well as an end to violence and terrorism.

14. The President and the Prime Minister reaffirmed their desire to continue working towards UN reform and endorsed the importance of the UN Summit to tackle effectively and comprehensively the inter-related threats of security, human rights and development.

15. The President and the Prime Minister looked forward to the first meeting of their bilateral strategic dialogue in October on nuclear issues. They also reaffirmed their joint determination to prevent the proliferation of technology, and materials for the purposes of developing nuclear weapons.

16. The Prime Minister welcomed the valuable role played in UK society by citizens of Pakistani origin, and also the strong links to Pakistan enjoyed by many of them. They agreed on the importance of continuing to facilitate travel between the UK and Pakistan including through fair and efficient administration of visa systems. The President and Prime Minister welcomed the signature of a bilateral MOU on managed immigration which will help to protect those who travel legally between their two countries and prevent abuse of the visa system.

The President and the Prime Minister look forward to the next annual summit-level meeting between their countries.■

15 September 2005

<<http://www.number-10.gov.uk/output/Page8208.asp>>

## DOCUMENT NO. 12

### JOINT STATEMENT OF THE FORMER MINISTERS OF INDIA AND PAKISTAN

This is the text of the Joint Statement issued at the conclusion of the meeting of Foreign Ministers of Pakistan and India.

The Foreign Minister of Pakistan, Mr. Khurshid M. Kasuri and the Indian External Affairs Minister, Shri K. Natwar Singh met in Islamabad on 3 October 2005 for a review meeting on the progress of the second round of the Composite Dialogue comprising Peace & Security including CBMs; Jammu & Kashmir; Siachen; Wullar Barrage/Tulbal Navigation Project; Sir Creek; Terrorism & Drug Trafficking; Economic & Commercial Cooperation and Promotion of Friendly Exchanges in various fields. The plenary meeting of the revived Pakistan-India Joint Commission was also held in Islamabad on 04 October 2005. The meeting was convened pursuant to the decision taken by President General Pervez Musharraf and Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh in their Joint Statement issued on 18 April 2005. The talks were held in a cordial and constructive atmosphere.

2. The Ministers held detailed and substantive discussions on the whole range of issues within the framework of the Composite Dialogue process and expressed

satisfaction over the progress in the Composite Dialogue since their last review meeting in September, 2004. They recalled the outcome of the discussions between the President of Pakistan and Prime Minister of India reflected in the Joint Statements of 6 January 2004, 24 September 2004, 18 April 2005 and 14 September 2005. The Ministers reiterated that possible options for a peaceful, negotiated settlement of the issue of Jammu and Kashmir should be explored in a sincere, purposeful and forward-looking manner. The Ministers reaffirmed their determination not to allow terrorism to impede the peace process. They resolved to carry forward the peace process and to maintain its momentum.

3. The Ministers expressed satisfaction over developments that have taken place over the last one year, including the smooth operation of the Muzaffarabad-Srinagar bus service.

4. The two Ministers endorsed the recommendations made by the Foreign Secretaries as reflected in the Joint Statement of the 02 September 2005. It was agreed that Expert level meetings will be held by the end of this year to finalize modalities for the meeting points of the divided families across the LoC and to initiate a truck service on Muzaffarabad-Srinagar route.

5. The two Ministers:

- a) welcomed the agreement to operationalize the Lahore-Amritsar bus service in November, 2005;
- b) agreed that a meeting of experts would be held in Islamabad on 25-26 October, 2005 to start the Nankana Sahib-Amritsar bus service at an early date;
- c) agreed that a meeting at the technical level would take place before the end of the year to discuss arrangements for operationalizing the Rawalakot-Poonch bus service as early as possible;
- d) agreed that a technical level meeting would take place before December 2005 to discuss modalities for starting truck service on Muzaffarabad-Srinagar route for trade in permitted goods; and
- e) welcomed the release of prisoners and fishermen by Pakistan and India. They agreed that the understanding reached between the Interior Secretaries on exchange of prisoners and fishermen would be implemented in letter and spirit including immediate notification of arrests by either side, consular access to all persons within three months of arrest, release of prisoners on completion of sentence and verification of national status, and early release of inadvertent crossers across the LoC. The Indian side handed over a draft of an agreement on consular access.

6. The two sides exchanged ideas on the Siachen issue and agreed to continue their discussions so as to arrive at a common understanding before commencement of the next round of the Composite Dialogue in January next year.

7. The two sides also exchanged ideas on the Sir Creek issue, taking into account the joint survey of the horizontal section of the boundary in the area.

Without prejudice to each other's position, they agreed to undertake a similar joint survey of the Sir Creek itself, and to consider options for the delimitation of their maritime boundary.

They agreed that the joint survey should commence before the end of the year and its report will be considered in the next round of the Composite Dialogue. Ideas relating to the delimitation of the maritime boundary would also be addressed in the Composite Dialogue with a view to its early resolution.

8. The two Ministers reiterated their commitment to the Iran-Pakistan-India gas pipeline project and agreed that this would contribute significantly to the prosperity and development of their countries.

9. The two Ministers also welcomed the signing of the following:

- a) Agreement on Pre-Notification of Flight Testing of Ballistic Missiles.
- b) Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Establishment of a Communication Link between the Pakistan Maritime Security Agency and the Indian Coast Guards.

10. The Indian side presented drafts for consideration proposing amendments to the existing agreements on visa, visits to religious shrines and new proposals for a Cultural Exchange Programme. The two sides agreed to pursue these matters under the Composite Dialogue framework.

11. The two sides reaffirmed their commitment to maintain the integrity of the Composite Dialogue.

12. The two Ministers expressed satisfaction at the revival of the Joint Commission and hoped that the Joint Commission would contribute significantly in strengthening the mutually beneficial relations and cooperation between the two countries. The two sides decided to restructure and streamline the work of the Joint Commission in the light of developments that have taken place since its last meeting in 1989.

13. In this context, the two sides had a meaningful and constructive exchange of ideas on restructuring the Joint Commission and subjects to be considered under its purview. The understandings reached would form the guidelines for the future work plan for the Joint Commission. The next meeting of the Joint Commission will be preceded by technical level working groups on Agriculture, Health, Science & Technology, Information, Education, I.T. & Telecommunication, Environment and Tourism.

14. The External Affairs Minister of India invited the Foreign Minister of Pakistan to visit India. The invitation was accepted and dates would be finalized through diplomatic channels.

15. The External Affairs Minister of India also paid courtesy calls on President General Pervez Musharraf and Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz. ■

11 October 2005

<<http://www.hindu.com/thehindu/nic/indopakstmt.htm>>

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**DOCUMENT NO. 13****ADDRESS BY PRIME MINISTER OF PAKISTAN  
MR. SHAUKAT AZIZ AT THE INAUGURAL SESSION OF  
13TH SAARC SUMMIT**

Your Excellency Begum Khaleda Zia,  
Chairperson SAARC  
Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen  
Assalam-o-Alaikum

It is indeed a privilege to participate in the Thirteenth SAARC Summit in the historic city of Dhaka. I wish to thank the Government and people of Bangladesh for their warm welcome and their gracious hospitality. The impressive arrangements made by the Government of Bangladesh augur well for the success of the Summit.

Allow me to offer to you, Madam Prime Minister, our heartiest felicitations on your assumption of the office of the Chairperson of SAARC. I am confident that under your able leadership, SAARC will move rapidly towards □ rganization of its cherished goals. I assure you of Pakistan 's full support to your endeavours in this direction.

**Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I compliment our former Secretary General, Mr. QAMA Rahim and his team for their excellent work in steering the SAARC □ rganization during his tenure. I also warmly welcome His Excellency Lyonpo Chenkyab Dorji, our new Secretary General, who, I am sure, will provide dynamic stewardship to the Organisation. We assure him of our full cooperation.

- I am told that this will be the last appearance by Her Excellency President Kumaratunga of Sri Lanka at a SAARC Summit as she will be relinquishing her august post after completion of eleven years in the office of the Presidency. Our □ rganization has greatly benefited from her wisdom and sagacity over the years. We shall miss her wise counsel and inspiring leadership. We wish her every success in her future endeavours in the service of her country and the SAARC.

**Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I take this opportunity to express our deep gratitude to the world community and especially to our SAARC community for the generous assistance given to Pakistan in our hour of need as we were hit by the catastrophic earthquake of 8 October. In the face of this colossal tragedy, our people have responded with courage and determination.

The tsunami of last December and the equally devastating earthquake clearly highlight the need to establish an early warning and disaster response system in the region. The SAARC Environment Ministers Conference in the Male this June had called for strengthening regional cooperation for better preparedness and effective

management of natural disasters. This recommendation deserves special attention at the national level.

**Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

We are happy to see that as SAARC celebrates its twentieth anniversary, the organization has returned to the city of its birth for rejuvenation. The spirit of Dhaka will lend our enterprise greater vigour and dynamism. We pay tribute to the inspiring vision of Late President Ziaur Rahman who initiated the SAARC idea and organization that regional cooperation was essential for peace and progress of South Asia. We must transform this vision into a reality.

This Dhaka Summit will also be remembered as a landmark event for we would welcome the brotherly country of Afghanistan to the SAARC family. Inclusion of Afghanistan will undoubtedly enrich our organization and add to its strength. We also welcome the interest of our friend and neighbour China to be associated with our organization as an observer or dialogue partner.

**Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

We live in a transformed world where regional cooperation has become a powerful vehicle of peace, development and progress. South Asia is yet to enter the mainstream of this worldwide phenomenon. We remain mired in poverty and preoccupied with our differences and conflicts. We have not been able to leverage the full potential of SAARC.

As we look at the twenty years of SAARC, we cannot escape the conclusion that South Asia lags behind its larger Asian neighbourhood, in terms of economic and social advancement.

In my view there are two key impediments to SAARC's success. Firstly, the political disputes and tensions in the region. We have remained embroiled with conflict management. We need to move towards conflict resolution.

Secondly, while other Asian countries, especially those of the ASEAN, forged closer and robust cooperation for development and positioned themselves to benefit from organizations, SAARC has remained inward looking and shy of reaching out to other regional organizations and the world. We must adopt an inclusive approach and open to interaction especially with our larger Asian neighbourhood. We need to create linkages and interdependencies ensuring a win-win for all.

**Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Dhaka Summit is taking place under propitious circumstances as we are witnessing a new hope across our ancient sub-continent. Since the Islamabad Summit, I am happy to state that the political atmosphere between Pakistan and India has improved, and both countries are engaged in a peace process to resolve all issues, including Jammu and Kashmir. Success of the process augurs well for the region and SAARC.

I am also happy to say that regional cooperation and SAARC's profile were enhanced during the past two years. The Twelfth Summit took landmark decisions that have helped energize SAARC. We were able to set new markers for regional cooperation in South Asia, including SAFTA, the Social Charter, Poverty Alleviation, Energy Cooperation and the signing of the Additional Protocol to the SAARC Convention on Suppression of Terrorism. SAARC has also received Observer Status

at the United Nations. We are grateful for the cooperation and support we received during Pakistan 's Chairmanship from all the Member States.

We must now demonstrate the political will to sustain the momentum generated at Islamabad. We should build on areas of convergence, divergences and most of all seek to augment complementarities for the greater good of the peoples of this region. We must learn from each other's best practices. We need to help each other to help ourselves.

**Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Pakistan has submitted to this Summit a blue print to make SAARC goal-oriented, practical and pragmatic. The focus should be on implementation of decisions and translating into tangible terms the worth and value of our regional enterprise. SAARC activities should be organized, quantified and evaluated constantly. We must enable SAARC to deliver on the promise of its Charter.

In this perspective, I would suggest that SAARC set itself the following broad priorities:

- Expansion and intensification of economic and commercial cooperation.
- Promoting cooperation in the field of energy.
- Cooperation for environmental protection and sustainable development with particular focus on conservation and management of water and natural resources.
- Cooperation for joint projects to alleviate poverty and promote health, education and agriculture. In this context our proposal of a SAARC Poverty Alleviation Fund of US\$300 million has been welcomed.
- Improvement of infrastructure, especially region-wide transportation and communication links. I am encouraged to see the establishment of the SAARC Regional Multimodal Workshop, which is tasked to study and help develop the transport sector in the region.
- Greater cooperation and coordination in the monetary and fiscal policies of SAARC Member States. Pakistan is ready to host the next meeting of Finance Ministers before the end of the year.
- Strengthening of the SAARC Secretariat. Our proposals in this regard are with the Member States.

**Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

SAFTA has been a landmark agreement and we take pride in the fact that it organization at the Twelfth Summit in Islamabad. I commend the hard work put in by the Committee of Experts. I hope that negotiations would be completed in time for SAFTA to become operational by January 2006.

Pakistan is a strong advocate of energy cooperation in South Asia, including the concept of an Energy Ring as mandated by the 12th SAARC Summit. We hosted the 1 st SAARC Energy Ministers meeting in Islamabad, which approved the establishment of a SAARC Regional Centre on Energy in Pakistan. I am confident that the Centre will develop into a regional institution of excellence for the initiation, coordination and facilitation of SAARC programmes in Energy. I may mention that

the prospective Iran-Pakistan-India Gas Pipeline will be an outstanding example of regional cooperation in the energy sector.

**Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

In the interest of efficiency and effectiveness, it is our view that the SAARC Summit and other meetings should be streamlined to make them business like. Summits, Ministerial and Standing Committee meetings should each have duration of one day. We need to concentrate on substantive matters. The future SAARC Declarations should be well-focused and brief documents.

**Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

The SAARC Social Charter is a historic document. It provides a clear vision for the socio-cultural development of South Asia. Implementation of its objectives in priority areas including health, education, human development, poverty alleviation, empowerment of women and protection of children would have far reaching impact on the lives of our peoples. The Charter objectives should be correlated to the Millennium Development Goals to facilitate multi-dimensional assistance and cooperation from the UN organization agencies.

Pakistan took the lead in setting up of a National Coordination Committee to prepare a National Strategy and Action Plan to implement the Charter and launched its National Plan of Action last September. In addition to poverty reduction, our plan focuses on raising and maintaining the social infrastructure, environment, drug de-addiction, women, youth, children, housing, clean drinking water and sanitation. We have aligned the targets of the Plan of Action with our Medium Term Development Framework, which, in turn, is in line with the Millennium Development Goals.

Eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge and remains the biggest impediment to sustainable development particularly in our region. Pakistan has made concerted efforts to arrest poverty through accelerating economic growth, developing human resource, job creation in agriculture and industry, and through micro-finance credit. The preliminary results of Pakistan Social and Living Standard Measurement Survey suggest a significant reduction of poverty level in Pakistan.

SAARC has placed considerable emphasis on gender equality and empowerment of women. We should redouble our efforts to bring women into our political and socio-economic mainstream. We commend the Work Plan adopted by the SAARC Advocacy Group of Women at its meeting in Islamabad in July 2004. Pakistan will host the SAARC Ministerial Conference on Women in 2006.

**Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

In an interdependent, fast world, no regional grouping can hope to function in isolation. SAARC must open up to other regional groups and the international community. The interaction among SAARC Ambassadors' Groups in major capitals of the world and at the UN to exchange views on important global issues of mutual interest and coordinate our positions has worked successfully. We should establish closer interactions with important extra-regional states and other regional organizations especially the European Union, ASEAN, OECD, ECO, the Gulf Coordination Council and Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

The rich civilisational and cultural heritage of the peoples of South Asia has a lot to offer to the world. We must give thought to sharing of best practices not only amongst ourselves but also with other regions. Our region's excellence in knowledge, arts, crafts, traditions and culture should be shared with other regional organizations.

There is a need to create synergies and build mutually beneficial economic complementarities for progress in South Asia. I firmly believe that we can transform South Asia into an engine of economic growth for the world while preserving our environment and our civilisational distinction. Pakistan remains committed to promoting regional cooperation under the SAARC auspices for ensuring peace, amity and progress of the peoples of our region.

Thank you.■

Dhaka, 12 November 2005

<<http://www.mofa.gov.bd/13saarcsummit/pakistan.html>>

## DOCUMENT NO. 14

### DHAKA DECLARATION AT THE THIRTEENTH SAARC SUMMIT

The Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Her Excellency Begum Khaleda Zia; the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Bhutan, His Excellency Lyonpo Sangay Ngedup; the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, His Excellency Dr. Manmohan Singh; the President of the Republic of Maldives, His Excellency Mr. Maumoon Abdul Gayoom; the King of Nepal, His Majesty Gyanendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev; the Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, His Excellency Mr. Shaukat Aziz; and, the President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, Her Excellency Mrs. Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga met at the Thirteenth Summit meeting of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) in Dhaka, Bangladesh on 12 - 13 November 2005.

#### **Regional Cooperation**

2. The Heads of State or Government noted that the Thirteenth Summit was taking place at an important moment in the evolution of South Asia when SAARC stood at the threshold of a new decade of its existence. They agreed that the Summit provided a unique opportunity to consolidate the gains made in regional cooperation during its first two decades and to chart a forward-looking strategy to promote effective cooperation at all levels to realize the objectives and principles set out in the Charter of the Association.

3. The Heads of State or Government noted that cooperation and partnership within the framework of SAARC is based on the sound foundation of shared values, beliefs and aspirations. The objectives and goals of SAARC, they affirmed, were of continuing relevance and importance to all Member States. The dynamics of recent political and economic changes in South Asia and the world highlighted the importance of, and the compelling logic for, a more vibrant and effective process of constructive regional cooperation. They emphasized their commitment to making such cooperation an enduring feature and thus contribute to the region's peace, progress and stability.

4. The Heads of State or Government noted that SAARC has evolved in a positive direction during the first two decades of its existence and that its agenda encompassed concerns and areas vital for the fulfillment of the Charter objectives of promoting the welfare of the peoples of South Asia, accelerating economic growth, social progress, cultural development and strengthening collective self-reliance among the countries of South Asia. They stressed that realization of these objectives not only called for continued and serious result-oriented efforts but also for consistent endeavours to translate pledges and commitments into concrete actions, regional initiatives and projects. They reiterated their commitment to making SAARC an effective instrument for cooperation, which will visibly improve the quality of life of millions in South Asia.

5. The Heads of State or Government emphasized that efforts must continue to free South Asia from poverty, hunger and other forms of deprivation and social injustice which present a daunting challenge. Member States expressed determination to work towards significantly accelerating regional cooperation in economic areas. The main emphasis will be to secure a wider economic space, so that benefits and opportunities offered therein can be shared by all, and that the true economic potential of South Asia can be fully realized. Efforts will be made to create dynamic complementarities in the development of human resources and capacity of Member States to address their common challenges. They underlined the need to accelerate regional cooperation through all possible means and mechanisms, including exchange of best practices in various fields in the Member States.

6. The Heads of State or Government reiterated that the peoples of South Asia are the real source of strength and driving force for SAARC and resolved to make regional cooperation more responsive to their hopes and aspirations. They agreed that the Association should broaden its engagement with the civil society organizations, professional groups, and entrepreneurs. Member States should also strive to promote and assert their South Asian identity, encourage greater people-to-people contact and draw strength from their shared cultural heritage.

7. The Heads of State or Government emphasized the importance of initiating project cooperation under the SAARC auspices. They encouraged Member States to undertake projects, as per existing provisions of the Charter. These projects may pertain to economic and social sectors, including Human Resource Development and Poverty Alleviation. These may be undertaken, where required, with financial or technical assistance, from International Financial Institutions (IFIs) or, UN Funds and Programmes or, any extra-regional State, as appropriate.

### **Poverty Alleviation**

8. The Heads of State or Government decided to declare the decade of 2006-2015 as the SAARC Decade of Poverty Alleviation. During the Decade, endeavours - both at the national and regional level - will continue to be made with a sense of commitment and urgency to free South Asia from poverty.

9. The Heads of State or Government appreciated the valuable work of the Independent South Asian Commission on Poverty Alleviation (ISACPA). They also endorsed the SAARC Development Goals (SDGs), as recommended by the Commission, and called for follow-up and implementation of the Plan of Action on Poverty Alleviation, adopted by the 12th SAARC Summit. They entrusted the

ISACPA to continue its advisory and advocacy role in this regard. They endorsed the priorities for action identified in the Report of ISACPA adopted by the Twelfth SAARC Summit. They agreed that these priorities would be duly taken into account while working out the elements for regional initiatives in this vital area. They decided to focus on formulation and implementation of concrete regional programmes and projects as well as forging partnerships among all stakeholders.

10. Underlining the need for an exclusive forum for focused and comprehensive examination of poverty related issues, the Heads of State / Government decided to replace the three-tier mechanism on poverty alleviation by a two-tier one, comprising the Ministers and the Secretaries dealing with Poverty Alleviation at the national level.

### **Funding Mechanisms**

11. The Heads of State or Government decided to establish a SAARC Poverty Alleviation Fund (SPAF) with contributions both voluntary and/or, assessed, as may be agreed. They called upon the Finance Ministers to formulate recommendations on the operational modalities of the Fund, taking into consideration the outcome of the Meeting of the Financial Experts. In this regard, they welcomed the offer of Pakistan to host the next meeting of the Finance Ministers. The operational modalities of the SPAF shall be decided by the Finance/ Planning Ministers. They agreed that the SPAF shall function within the SADF to be reconstituted, as SAARC Development Fund (SDF), to serve as the umbrella financial institution for all SAARC projects and programmes and comprise three Windows namely Social Window, Infrastructure Window and Economic Window with a Permanent Secretariat.

12. The Heads of State or Government decided that Finance Ministers should meet within the first quarter after every Summit and also on the sidelines of the World Bank and ADB annual meetings, to take stock of macro-economic developments and outlook for South Asia, achievement of SAARC Development Goals as co-related to Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and to assess the investment climate, foreign capital inflows, financial sector reforms and other areas of cooperation.

### **Advancing Economic Cooperation**

13. The Heads of State or Government stressed that accelerating cooperation in the core economic areas was of vital importance for the realization of Charter objectives and also for making South Asia truly vibrant, dynamic and secure in its robust progress. They reaffirmed their commitment to accelerate cooperation in the economic and commercial fields, especially in the energy sector. They noted the progress in the negotiations on outstanding issues and directed early finalization of all the Annexes ensuring entry into force of the SAFTA Agreement as agreed, with effect from 1 January 2006.

14. The Heads of State or Government stressed the importance of the entry into force of the SAFTA Agreement on the scheduled date i.e. 1 January 2006. The launching of SAFTA would mark an important milestone on the road to a South Asian Economic Union. They directed that the negotiations on the outstanding issues under the Agreement should be completed by end November 2005. They further directed that the necessary national procedures should be completed in time to facilitate the operationalisation of the Agreement.

15. They reiterated the need to strengthen transportation and communication links across the region for accelerated and balanced economic growth. They directed further measures aimed at trade liberalisation, as provided for in the SAFTA Agreement. They noted with satisfaction the ongoing SAARC Regional Multimodal Transport Study to enhance transport connectivity among the Member States. The Heads of State or Government agreed to undertake trade facilitation measures, including transit among SAARC countries, on the basis of understanding among concerned countries, for enhancing intra-regional trade and other economic activities. They noted the Indian proposal in this regard. They agreed to study the proposal by India for daily air service facility by designated airlines, on a reciprocal basis and without prejudice to existing rights, to all the SAARC Member States and also the proposal to extend fifth freedom rights to designated airlines from the Member States, both intermediate and beyond, within the SAARC region on a reciprocal basis.

16. The Heads of State or Government recognized the need to take the process of regional economic integration further by expanding the scope of SAFTA to include trade in services, enhanced investment and harmonized standards.

17. The Heads of State or Government welcomed the signing of the following Agreements during the thirteenth SAARC Summit:

- The Agreement on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Customs Matters
- The Agreement on the Establishment of SAARC Arbitration Council
- The Limited Agreement on Avoidance of Double Taxation and Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters

18. They emphasized the need for parallel initiatives for dismantling of non-tariff and para-tariff barriers. In this context, they called for expeditious action on conclusion of agreements on mutual recognition of standards, testing and measurements with a view to facilitating intra-regional trade. They recognized the potential of trade in services which have expanded rapidly at the informal level. They called for a study to see how services could be integrated into the SAFTA process.

19. The Heads of State or Government decided to encourage, where appropriate, trade-creating investment in the Member States. They stressed the need for closer regional cooperation in the field of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), including Tele-communications.

20. The Heads of State or Government welcomed the Joint Statement of the First SAARC Energy Ministers meeting in October 2005 in Islamabad. They agreed to the recommendation to establish the SAARC Energy Centre in Islamabad; to promote development of energy resources, including hydropower; and energy trade in the region; to develop renewable and alternative energy resources; and promote energy efficiency and conservation in the region. They underlined the need to constitute a South Asian Energy Dialogue process, involving officials, experts, academics, environmentalists and NGOs, to recommend measures to tap potentials of cooperation in energy sector to provide inputs to the Working Group on Energy.

21. The Heads of State or Government noted the proposal for the establishment of a Regional Food Bank proposed by India and agreed to examine the proposal.

22. With regard to paragraph 15 of the Council of Ministers Report, the Heads of State or Government noted the offer of Nepal to host the Regional Support Unit.

### **South Asia's Social Challenges**

23. The Heads of State or Government reiterated their commitment to take initiatives at national as well as regional levels for achieving the specific objectives contained in the SAARC Social Charter. They recognized that realization of these objectives is crucial to enable SAARC to meet the hopes and aspirations of the common peoples of South Asia and visibly improve the quality of their lives. They emphasized that in outlining future actions in this regard national implementation efforts should be complemented by regional programmes and projects in areas requiring collective regional response. They appreciated the establishment of National Coordination Committees (NCCs) in all Member States, decided on annual meetings of the Heads of NCCs and directed convening of their first meeting at the earliest for follow-up and implementation of the Social Charter. In this regard, they noted the proposal from the Maldives to convene an experts' group meeting on establishing a Civil Society Resource Centre.

24. The Heads of State or Government called upon the Member States to expeditiously complete the process of preparing their national strategy and plan of action. They also emphasized that national implementation efforts should be complemented by regional projects and programmes. In this context, they directed that regional projects, particularly in health and poverty alleviation, should be initiated.

25. The Heads of State or Government reiterated their pledge to continue to work in the next decade and beyond to address the formidable challenges faced by women and children, especially the girl child. They noted that sustained efforts were needed on the part of the Member States not only to free them from all types of deprivation but also to make them full partners and beneficiaries of South Asian progress and development. In this context, they decided that a mid-term review of the progress in realizing the objectives of SAARC Decade on the Rights of the Child (2001 - 2010) should be undertaken in 2006.

26. The Heads of State or Government affirmed their strong resolve to continue to work together to address the problem posed by trafficking in women and children. They expressed satisfaction at the ratification of the SAARC Conventions relating to Trafficking in Women and Children and Promotion of Child Welfare by all Member States and called for effective measures for their early implementation. They noted that the civil society organizations and the media have an important role to play in raising awareness of the degrading and inhuman treatment faced by the victims of trafficking. They encouraged them to continue their constructive role in this regard. They stressed that law enforcement agencies in the Member States should also coordinate and strengthen their efforts to address this problem effectively.

27. The Heads of State or Government noted the achievements of the Member States during recent years in the area of primary education through sustained efforts and adoption of country specific innovative approaches. They recognized that regional initiatives in this particular area might focus on sharing of experiences and best practices. They also called for optimal utilization of resources and identification of strategic interventions in the area of training, management and performance

evaluation of these programmes so as to ensure sustainability, coverage and quality of education imparted and services provided. They stressed that freeing South Asia from the scourge of illiteracy is a major objective of SAARC in the third decade of its activities. They called for effective measures to realize the SDGs, in particular universal primary education in the context of pursuing the Millennium Development Goals.

28. The Heads of State or Government stressed that to meet the challenges of the twenty-first century Member States must make important strides in the areas of science, technology and higher education. They decided to give priority attention to encourage regional cooperation in these areas to derive benefits from the synergy of collective, well-planned and focused initiatives undertaken by Member States. They directed that a SAARC Plan of Action for Science, ICT and Technology be elaborated for consideration during a Meeting of SAARC Science, ICT and Technology Ministers to be convened as soon as possible. They noted the offer of India to establish a South Asian University and agreed to examine this matter further.

29. The Heads of State or Government recognized the need to collaborate on preparedness for addressing health emergencies, including prevention and control of pandemics like avian influenza, as these pose a major global threat with impact on health, trade and tourism involving human mobility. They emphasized on the need to develop a regional strategy for such emergencies as soon as possible; and identify and strengthen collaboration within and beyond the region and establish links with other regional organizations. They called for early establishment of a SAARC Health Surveillance Centre and a Rapid Deployment Health Response System, to deal with emerging and re-emerging diseases.

30. The Heads of State or Government welcomed the preparation of a strategy for collective SAARC response to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS. They noted that regional response in this regard should be further enhanced to eliminate this dreadful disease from South Asia. In this regard, they emphasized the importance of early implementation of the Regional Strategy of HIV/AIDS. At the same time, they underscored the need for increasing cooperation to develop regional strategies for the prevention and treatment of Dengue, Malaria and other infectious or communicable diseases constituting major public health concerns.

31. The Heads of State or Government agreed to launch a regional initiative with regard to basic healthcare services and sanitation in the rural areas and encouraged exchange of experience and best practices within the region. They called for expediting elaboration of a SAARC Plan of Action for cooperation in medical expertise and pharmaceuticals, as well as traditional medicine, and availing affordable pharmaceuticals produced in the region, harmonization of standards and certification procedures and production of affordable medicines. They also agreed that steps should be taken to promote traditional medicine and to protect the intellectual property rights related to them as a matter of regional priority.

### **South Asia's Environmental Challenges and Natural Disasters**

32. They further decided to consider the modalities for having a Regional Environment Treaty in furthering environmental cooperation among the SAARC Member States. They expressed deep concern at the continuing degradation of environment and reaffirmed the importance of concerted action in the protection and

preservation of environment. While expressing satisfaction at the progress in implementation of the SAARC Environment Action Plan, the Leaders welcomed the decision of the Council of Ministers to establish a SAARC Forestry Centre in Bhutan. They emphasized on the need for the Centre to have a coordinating role in the field of Forestry for exchange of information, expertise, training and formulation of regional projects with emphasis on social forestry.

33. The Heads of State or Government welcomed the Declaration of the Special Session of the SAARC Environment Ministers in Male in June 2005 convened in the wake of the tsunami catastrophe. They endorsed the recommendation for elaboration of regional programmes and projects for early warning, preparedness and management of tsunami and other natural disasters. They called for elaboration of a Comprehensive Framework on Early Warning and Disaster Management.

34. They endorsed the decision of the Special Session of the SAARC Environment Ministers to further enhance the capacity of the existing SAARC Institutions namely, SAARC Meteorological Research Centre and SAARC Coastal Zone Management Centre, to carry out their mandated tasks.

35. In view of the extensive loss of life and colossal damage to property as a result of earthquake and tsunami and other natural disasters in South Asia, the Heads of State or Government underscored the urgency to put in place a permanent regional response mechanism dedicated to disaster preparedness, emergency relief and rehabilitation to ensure immediate response. They directed the concerned national authorities to coordinate their activities in such areas of disaster management as early warning, exchange of information, training and sharing of experiences and best practices in emergency relief efforts.

36. The Heads of State or Government underlined the need for collaborative action in the area of environment, including water conservation, to promote sustainable development. They decided to proclaim the Year 2007 as the "Year of Green South Asia" devoted to a region-wide afforestation campaign. They also agreed to address the problem of arsenic contamination of groundwater and assistance to affected peoples.

### **Combating Terrorism**

37. The Heads of State or Government agreed that terrorism violates the fundamental values of the SAARC Charter and the United Nations, and constitutes one of the most critical threats to international peace and security. The Heads of State or Government expressed their satisfaction at the ratification of the Additional Protocol to the SAARC Convention on Suppression of Terrorism by all Member States and called for putting in place effective mechanisms for its implementation. They strongly condemned terrorist violence in all its forms and manifestations, agreed that terrorism is a challenge to all States and a threat to all of humanity, and cannot be justified on any grounds. They underlined that there should be no double standards in the fight against terrorism. In view of the continuing and recent terrorist attacks in the region and their impact on security, economic stability and social development, they expressed their determination to unite in their efforts in preventing and combating terrorism. They also noted the United Nations Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) in this regard.

38. They called for early and effective implementation of the Additional Protocol to the SAARC Convention on Suppression of Terrorism. They underscored the need for an early conclusion of a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism. They also agreed that Member States would strengthen their cooperation in such important areas as exchange of information, coordination and cooperation among their relevant agencies.

39. They decided that SAARC Interior/Home Ministers would meet annually preceded by a meeting of the Interior/Home Secretaries.

40. The Heads of State or Government directed that concrete measures be taken to enforce the provisions of the Regional Convention on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances through an appropriate regional mechanism.

#### **Security of Small States**

41. The Heads of State or Government noted that due to their specific vulnerabilities, small states require special measures for support from all concerned for safeguarding their sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity. In this context, they stressed that protection of small states should be firmly rooted in scrupulous adherence to the UN Charter, rule of law and the strict adherence to universally accepted principles and norms related to sovereign rights and territorial integrity of all States, irrespective of their size. They committed themselves to give concrete expression to protect the interest and security of all small states through the pursuit of appropriate policies and actions.

#### **People-to-People Contact and Cultural Cooperation**

42. The Heads of State or Government noted that the spirit of SAARC needed to be sustained by efforts to promote people-to-people contact and by a vibrant civil society throughout South Asia actively engaged in forging links across national boundaries. They felt that the Association of SAARC Speakers and Parliamentarians should meet at an early date to establish a mechanism for periodic contacts among the Parliamentarians of South Asia. They stressed that continued efforts would be made by the Member States at all levels to promote people-to-people contact by facilitating travel among SAARC countries, promotion of youth exchanges in culture and sports, promotion of intra-SAARC tourism, establishment of linkages among professional bodies and through adoption of other concrete measures. They decided to launch 2006 as "South Asia Tourism Year." They directed their Ministers for Tourism to meet at an early date and elaborate a plan of activities to be undertaken during the year 2006. They also stated that Member States would encourage initiatives by private sector entities in promoting understanding and harmony in the region.

43. The Heads of State or Government recognized the crucial role of culture in bringing the peoples of South Asia closer. They also stressed that cooperation in the area of culture was vital for reinforcing and projecting the distinct identity of South Asia. In this context, they expressed satisfaction on the progress made in establishing the SAARC Cultural Centre in Kandy and underlined the importance of making it operational at the earliest. They also directed the SAARC Ministers of Culture to meet as soon as possible to elaborate a SAARC Agenda for Culture. They noted the offer of India to establish a SAARC Museum of Textiles and Handicrafts inter alia to

preserve designs in various crafts and related traditions, train artisans and crafts persons, foster design skills, hold promotional events, undertake research.

#### **International Political and Economic Environment**

44. The Heads of State or Government reviewed international political and economic developments since their last Summit in Islamabad. They underscored the imperative need to ensure universal adherence to the principles and objectives enshrined in the UN Charter. They called upon the international community to redouble efforts to meet the commitments of the Millennium Summit and the Monterrey consensus. They noted the outcome of the UN World Summit 2005 and underlined the need for meaningful reforms of the United Nations system in consonance with its role as the central organ for the cooperative management of the global problems and for the promotion of peace, security, development, justice and human rights. They also reiterated their full support for a comprehensive approach, which would facilitate implementation of the Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in a time bound manner.

45. The Heads of State or Government stressed that promotion of global peace and security inter alia called for removing the existing asymmetries in security and in ensuring undiminished security for all, at the regional and global levels. They also emphasized the importance of pursuing effectively the global objectives of universal disarmament and preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

46. The Heads of State or Government reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthen the multilateral trade regime of WTO. They called upon all WTO members to demonstrate necessary understanding and accommodation for a breakthrough at the Hong Kong Ministerial meeting in December 2005 to pave the way for the successful conclusion of the Doha Development Round. They underscored that the development dimension should continue to be at the heart of the on-going negotiations so that the legitimate concerns of the developing countries are adequately reflected in the outcome of the current round of trade negotiations. They agreed that the SAARC Member States would work closely together to coordinate their positions in the on-going negotiations on trade and other key economic issues. The Heads of State or Government directed the Commerce Ministers to hold consultations on the sidelines of the 6th WTO Ministerial Conference to be held in Hong Kong in December 2005, to evolve a common SAARC Position on issues of common concern.

47. The Heads of State or Government addressed the question of electing the Secretary-General of the United Nations in the year 2006, being aware of the unanimous view that the well-established principle of geographical rotation should be observed and that an Asian should be appointed as the next Secretary-General of the United Nations. In this regard, they noted that Sri Lanka has offered a candidate.

#### **Enhancing Political Cooperation**

48. The Heads of State or Government welcomed the growing importance being placed by all Member States to promote cooperation in an environment of enduring peace and stability in South Asia. They reiterated their commitment to the principles of sovereign equality, territorial integrity and national independence, non-use of force, non-intervention, and non-interference in the internal affairs of other Member States.

Recognizing the increasing interdependence and the imperative of pursuing the objectives of peace, freedom, social justice and economic prosperity, they re-affirmed their resolve to foster mutual understanding, good neighbourly relations and a more meaningful cooperation through sustained constructive engagement among Member States.

#### **External Profile and Linkages of SAARC**

49. The Heads of State or Government welcomed the observer status granted to SAARC by the United Nations General Assembly at its Fifty-ninth Session; and expressed the hope that this would not only enhance the profile of SAARC in the world body but would also enable Member States to project common positions of SAARC in various multilateral forums. They also acknowledged the renewed interest of other regional and international organizations, bodies and entities to cooperate with SAARC in various collaborative endeavours in accordance with the objectives and priorities of SAARC. The Heads of State or Government welcomed the request by the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan for membership and invited Afghanistan as a member, subject to the completion of formalities. They also welcomed and agreed in principle with the desire of the People's Republic of China and Japan to be associated as observers. The Council of Ministers will decide the modalities in this regard at their twenty-seventh meeting in July 2006.

#### **Strengthening Institutional Mechanisms of SAARC**

50. The Heads of State or Government agreed that with the incremental broadening of the SAARC agenda and increased emphasis being placed on implementation of plans and programmes, there was a need for a commensurate strengthening of institutional capabilities of SAARC. Recognizing the importance of thematic Ministerial meetings, they emphasized that these meetings should focus on regional challenges and priorities and contribute to the realization of the objectives of SAARC. They agreed that on completion of twenty years of SAARC's existence, it was essential that a comprehensive review and reform of all SAARC institutions and mechanisms, including the Secretariat and the Regional Centers should be undertaken. In this context, they called on the Council of Ministers to convene a Meeting of Experts, to be nominated by each Member State, to undertake a detailed Study and present a report to the next Council of Ministers. They empowered the current Chairman of the Council of Ministers to prepare within the next fifteen days a draft Terms of Reference for the Study to be approved, if necessary, by tele-conferencing of all SAARC Foreign Ministers.

#### **SAARC Vision: An agenda for Third Decade of SAARC**

51. The Heads of State or Government reiterated their commitment to the realisation of the vision of South Asian Economic Union in a phased and planned manner. They agreed that as SAARC completed its twenty years of its existence, it was an opportune occasion to draw a roadmap for regional cooperation in South Asia for the next decade. In view of the new challenges facing the region, pledges and commitments made in the last two decades should be translated into concrete actions in the form of regional projects and programmes and innovative initiatives.

52. They directed all SAARC institutions and mechanisms to work collectively towards a decade dedicated to implementation so that a visible and discernible impact can be felt across South Asia. They emphasized that while this would enable SAARC to realize its basic objectives of improving the quality of life of all South Asian peoples, it would at the same time create an enabling environment towards the establishment of a South Asian Economic Union. They directed the Standing Committee to formulate its recommendations, at its next Special Session, on a Vision for SAARC's Third Decade and the course of action for its realization, to be elaborated by a high-level Committee of Senior Officials.

#### **Date and venue of the Fourteenth SAARC Summit**

53. The Heads of State or Government welcomed the offer of the Government of India to host the Fourteenth SAARC Summit in the first quarter of 2007.■

13 November 2005

<[http://www.mofa.gov.bd/13saarcsummit/dhaka\\_summit\\_declaration.html](http://www.mofa.gov.bd/13saarcsummit/dhaka_summit_declaration.html)>

## **DOCUMENT NO. 15**

### **SPEECH OF PROFESSOR EKMELLEDIN IHSANOGLU OIC SECRETARY-GENERAL AT THE EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE OIC**

At the Conference of Foreign Ministers of Member States Preparatory to the Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference

**Makkah Al Mukarramah  
Kingdom Of Saudi Arabia  
5 - 6 Dhul Qa'ada 1426h  
(7-8 November 2005)**

Your Highnesses and Excellencies,  
*Assalamu Alaykum Warahmatullabi Wabarakatub*

I have the honor to address you at the outset of this important meeting meant to finalize and adopt the Work Programme and prepare the documents to be submitted to the leaders of the Muslim Ummah at the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference starting tomorrow morning in Makkah Al Mukarramah.

I wish to begin by renewing my thanks to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah Ibn Abdulaziz, for his kind initiative to convene this Extraordinary Summit at this critical moment in the history of the Muslim Ummah. I must also express my gratitude to the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the excellent arrangements made for the Summit and to host the Summit participants in order to ensure full success. I wish particularly to thank His Royal Highness Prince Saud Al Faisal, the Foreign Minister, for his constant support he has

been giving to us and the competent staff of his ministry since we began the preparation for this extraordinary summit. We are indeed very grateful.

It is our hope that this meeting will adopt the agenda of the Third Extraordinary Islamic Summit after all the accompanying documents have been studied. As you are well aware, the agenda will direct the course of the Summit's deliberations and the final documents to come out from it.

We also hope that the meeting will adopt the Ten-Year Programme of Action, which, once approved by the Extraordinary Islamic summit, will constitute the Roadmap to guide Joint Islamic Action for one whole decade. In view of the importance of this document, I find it useful to explain that the Programme is a summary of the most important recommendations of the meeting of scholars and intellectuals held in Makkah Al Mukarramah at the initiative of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz. A large number of scholars in various disciplines from within and outside the Member States participated in the meeting. Over the course of three days, they considered the challenges confronting the Islamic Ummah, and offered important ideas and suggestions on how to deal with them. You will find in the Secretary-General's report submitted to the Extraordinary Islamic Summit a summary of the ideas and recommendations of the scholars and intellectuals. The Ten-Year Programme of Action also contains many of the ideas and suggestions of the Eminent Persons Committee constituted by the Tenth Islamic Summit Conference, especially as regards enlightened moderation and the reform of the OIC.

The Draft submitted to your esteemed meeting has been thoroughly studied and discussed by the OIC Member States, with a number of amendments introduced to enrich it. The General Secretariat has incorporated all the amendments proposed by the Member States into the document before you. This is to facilitate the work of this meeting, especially as we have to consider all the items of the agenda today before proceeding to Makkah Al Mukarramah, in preparation for the inauguration of the Extraordinary Islamic Summit tomorrow morning, Allah Willing.

Moreover, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the host country, will prepare the Makkah Al Mukarramah Declaration and will hold consultations with the Member States before the Summit adopts the Declaration, as is the practice at all previous Islamic Summits.

Your Highnesses and Excellencies,

The Muslim world today faces enormous and growing challenges, with grave implications for our political, economic, cultural and scientific conditions. This situation has weakened the position of the Islamic Ummah in the contemporary world and hampered its pioneering role in consolidating the values of equality, justice, peace and development.

The protracted crises the Islamic Ummah has gone through have broken its latent power and spread conflicts among the States of the Muslim World. In the fields of economy, science and technology, the indices of economic development have reduced, poverty has increased while the role of the private sector has shrunk, leading to growing unemployment and increasing debt burden. The Muslim World has not been able to catch up with the scientific and technological progress to the extent that, in this regard, we have become dependent on the rest of world.

The last few years have witnessed the growing phenomenon of Islamophobia, which has hindered proper understanding of Islam and Muslims. This disturbing phenomenon has significantly increased the suffering of Muslim communities in the West and led to the distortion of the tolerant image of Islam. It is impossible to separate Islamophobia from international terrorism, a phenomenon that has seriously dented the reputation of Muslims, even though many States of the Muslim world are themselves victims of terrorism.

These enormous challenges have led the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah Ibn Abdulaziz, to invite his brothers, the Kings and Heads of State to meet in an Islamic Extraordinary meeting in order to examine these challenges and explore the best means to face them collectively, so as to salvage the Ummah and remove it from the state of weakness to that of strength and influence, and from the state of passivity to that of proactivity. Having realized these challenges, and because of their belief in the importance of collective action, the leaders of the Islamic Ummah have responded to the urgent invitation of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, by agreeing to hold the Third Extraordinary Islamic Summit in Makkah Al Mukarramah.

Your Highnesses and Excellencies,

The entire Muslim world is awaiting the results of the Summit with the hope that it will be a watershed and decisive phase in the history of Islamic solidarity. They hope this would be a Summit that will diagnosis the ailment and prescribe the best remedies to confront the huge challenges facing the Ummah at this critical stage.

The Third Islamic conference in Malaysia symbolized the willingness of the Member States to reform the Organization of the Islamic Conference, having produced the Committee of Eminent Personalities which was mandated to develop a comprehensive vision for the reform of the Organization. The report of that committee is included in the documents given to you.

Similarly, the 32nd Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Sana'a was an important step towards strengthening the reform project, as the same Conference adopted clear resolutions in that regard. Consultations are ongoing between us, H.E. the Foreign Minister of Yemen and members of the troika in order to implement those resolutions.

In line with this energetic spirit, we have prepared a draft Ten-Year Programme of Action wherein we stated the challenges that threaten the Ummah as well as the means to face them. Since the OIC General Secretariat is the main vessel of Islamic solidarity, it is must have a central role implementing the new strategy and objectives of the Islamic World. But this cannot be possible without a comprehensive review of the Charter, the objectives and mission of the OIC. Such a review will make the Organization effective and attuned to the contemporary spirit and capable of carrying the burden of leading Joint Islamic Action and meeting the expectations and aspirations of the Islamic Ummah for the twenty-first century.

I wish your deliberations full success and thank you for your kind attention.

Wa Sallam alaikum Wa Rahamatullahi Wa Barakatuh.■

7-8 December 2005

<<http://www.oic-oci.org/ex-summit/english/speeches/sg-speech-fm.htm>>

## DOCUMENT NO. 16

**MAKKAH AL-MUKARRAMAH DECLARATION AT THE  
THIRD SESSION OF THE EXTRAORDINARY ISLAMIC SUMMIT  
CONFERENCE**

(7–8 DECEMBER 2005)

*Bismillahi Arrahmani Arrabim**In the Name of God, Most Compassionate, Most Merciful***Makkah Al-Mukarramah Declaration**

We, the Kings, Heads of State and Government, and Emirs of the Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), meeting in the Third Session of the Extraordinary of the Islamic Summit Conference, held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah from 5 to 6 Dhul Quidah 1426H (7-8 December 2005), declare:

We praise high the Name of Almighty Allah, Who has blessed us with the grace of gathering together on the soil of this hallowed land, cradle of the revelation of Islam and its message, and Qibla of all Muslims, from which the light of Islam shone forth to guide humanity to the path of prosperity and peace, thus enabling the foundations to be laid of an Islamic civilization that was able to bring a much-needed, timely, and decisive contribution to human civilization.

Whereas the purport of the lofty essence of Islam was to ultimately bring the world out of the darkness of ignorance, oppression, and tyranny and into the light of truth, justice, developing sciences and knowledge, and peaceful co-existence, we find ourselves today at an age of muddled concepts, misguided values, and pervasive ignorance, as diseases and epidemics gain ever-greater grounds, injustice takes hold, and man's environment grows despoiled by the day. More than ever before, we stand in dire need of a fresh vision to turn the tide and the Ummah, as Almighty Allah has rightfully ordained, into a guiding beacon and source of light that radiates forth science, knowledge, and morality for the benefit of all humanity.

Protecting our Islamic identity, our basic values, and the higher interests of the Ummah can only be achieved through the sincere loyalty of Muslims to true Islam and their commitment to its original principles and values as their cherished way of life. Only then will the Ummah be able to rise to the challenge of playing an instrumental, proactive role in the service of humanity and human civilization.

Therefore, our conscience throbs in deep synchronicity with the hearts and minds of the Ummah as expressed by its scholars and intellectuals—may God bless them on our behalf--in their meeting only weeks before this Summit Conference. Thus are we only too aware of the political, developmental, social, cultural and educational challenges they brought to the fore; only too aware are we of the internal and external threats that have helped to exacerbate the Ummah's current plight, as they not only menace its very future but also that of the whole of humanity and civilization.

These challenges must, therefore, be dealt with through a strategic vision, which needs to plan for the future of the Ummah just as it needs to maintain a responsive pulse to international developments so as to gradually refine itself into a forward-looking vision that enables the Muslim world to tackle the challenges of the Twenty-first Century by leveraging the collective will and Joint Islamic Action.

At this stage, we are consequently called upon to take a pause for a sincere and firm reflection on reforming the Ummah, which is a process that starts with reforming the self by rallying round a common stand based on Almighty Allah's Holy Quran and the Noble Tradition of His Prophet (PBUH). This reform process should then naturally end in a staunch counteraction of any miscreants who would wantonly work evil sedition, who would misguide and mislead, and would distort the loftiest tenets of our Islamic faith enshrined in its intrinsic call for love, peace, harmony, and the civilized way out. How can they speak and act for such perverted ideas entrenched as they are in ignorance, isolationism, hatred, and blood-letting?

Nevertheless, our Muslim Ummah is called upon to meet today for the highest good and right in affirmation of Almighty Allah's words enjoining us to: "Hold fast to Allah's rope [in unity] and not to be divided". And that unity requires our scholars and experts of jurisprudence to unify their stand on exposing the corruption of these miscreants and the falsehood of their claims in a determined show of strength and undivided condemnation.

While we affirm, in this regard, that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations is a global phenomenon that is not confined to any particular religion, race, color, or country, and that can in no way be justified or rationalized, we are determined—with Almighty Allah's help and grace—to develop our national laws and legislations to criminalize every single terrorist practice and every single practice leading to the financing or instigation of terrorism. Similarly, we are also called upon to redouble and orchestrate international efforts to combat terrorism, including the establishment of an International Counter-Terrorism Center as endorsed by the Riyadh International Conference on Combating Terrorism.

Even so, all the governments and peoples of the Ummah are unanimous in their conviction that reform and development are the priority to which all efforts should be channeled within a framework that is intimately molded in our Islamic social make-up. At the same time this framework needs to remain in harmony with the achievements of human civilization and steeped in the principles of consultation, justice, and equality in its drive to achieve good governance, widen political participation, establish the rule of law, protect human rights, apply social justice, transparency, and accountability, fight corruption, and build civil society institutions.

Indeed, the Islamic civilization is an integral part of human civilization, based on the ideals of dialogue, moderation, justice, righteousness, and tolerance as noble human values that counteract bigotry, isolationism, tyranny, and exclusion. It is therefore of paramount importance to celebrate and consecrate these magnanimous values in our Muslim discourse inside and outside our societies.

As we reaffirm our unwavering rejection of terrorism, and all forms of extremism and violence, we strongly voice our feelings of stigmatization and concern over the growing phenomenon of Islamophobia around the world as a form of racism and discrimination and declare our resolve to work hard to combat this phenomenon with all available means.

Given the deep import of economic and social cooperation in strengthening solidarity among Islamic States, maximizing the advantages and averting the pitfalls of globalization, we consider the eradication of illiteracy, diseases and epidemics, and the fight to alleviate poverty in Islamic States as urgent, strategic objectives requiring us to drum up all necessary resources.

If we are to succeed in achieving our desired objectives, then of necessity we must show commitment and credibility in our Joint Islamic Action. Therefore, proceeding from a new vision of the Muslim world that tackles head on international challenges, as well as political, economic, social, and cultural variables in a manner that safeguards the values and interests of the Ummah, we adopt and endorse the Ten-Year Programme of Action to face the challenges of the Muslim Ummah in the Twenty-first Century.

To Almighty Allah we pray that He may guide us onto the right path, crown our endeavors with success, and bless our lives with abundant prosperity.

"Allah has promised those who believe among you and who have done good deeds that He will surely empower them in the earth just as He did with their predecessors and that He will surely establish for them (therein) their religion which He has preferred for them and that He will surely substitute for them, after their fear, security (for) they worship Me, not associating anything with Me. But whoever disbelieves after that—then those indeed are the evil doers." (Al-Nour 53, True are the Words of Allah).

Thank you for your attention.■

7-8 December 2005

<<http://www.oic-oci.org/ex-summit/english/Makka-dec-en.htm>>

## DOCUMENT NO. 17

### PROJECT OF THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE OF THE THIRD EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC SUMMIT CONFERENCE, "MEETING THE CHALLENGES OF THE 21ST CENTURY, SOLIDARITY IN ACTION"

**MAKKAH AL MUKARRAMAH  
5-6 DHUL QA'ADAH 1426H  
(7-8 DECEMBER 2005)**

In response to the kind invitation addressed from the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah Ibn Abdulaziz to his brothers and sister, the leaders of the Muslim Ummah, the Third Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference was held in Makkah Al Mukarramah on 5-6 Dhul Qa'adah 1426 H (7-8 December 2005).

The Summit Conference was inaugurated by recitation of verses from the Holy Qur'an. Then the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah Ibn Abdulaziz, delivered a speech in which he stressed that a strong Muslim believer in his Lord does not despair in God's mercy and that Islamic unity will never be realized

through the shedding of blood as misguided deviants assume. Extremism, fanaticism and excommunication will not take root in a land endowed with the spirit of tolerance and the dissemination of moderation. He affirmed his aspiration to the rise of a unified Islamic Ummah; a rule that eradicates injustice and oppression; comprehensive Islamic development targeting the removal of destitution and poverty; the spread of reason and moderation that characterize the tolerance of Islam; Muslim inventors and industrialists; an advanced Islamic technology; and to a Muslim youth who equally works for this life and the hereafter.

The Conference was also addressed by the Prime Minister of Malaysia, His Excellency Dato Seri Abdullah bin Ahmed Badawi, in his capacity as Chairman of the Tenth Islamic Summit Conference. In his statement, he stressed that the Muslim Ummah could no longer be in a state of denial and that the causes for the miserable conditions in which it finds itself today must be confronted and addressed in a holistic manner, *inter alia*, through building capacities as well as the projection of the true image of Islam and its civilizational approaches. He informed that Malaysia had offered to host meetings to discuss good governance and the establishment of a rapid response mechanism to alleviate the impact of natural disasters in OIC Member States.

Addressing the opening session, Professor Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, reviewed the current situation of the OIC and the appropriate place it is aspiring to occupy on the international scene, taking into account the huge global developments and the need for strategic planning so as to keep abreast of these developments in such a way that safeguards the supreme interests of the Muslim world and enables it to preserve its identity, civilization and lofty human values as a fundamental factor for the cohesion of the fabric of the Muslim societies and the strengthening of their social stability.

Having taken cognizance of the reports and recommendations submitted to it by the Meeting of Foreign Ministers Preparatory to the Extraordinary Summit, and having discussed the issues on its agenda, the Conference decided to adopt the Makkah Declaration and the Ten-Year Programme of Action to Meet the Challenges Facing the Ummah in the 21st Century, and declared as follows:

### **I. In the Intellectual Field**

The Summit reaffirmed that Islam is a religion of moderation which rejects bigotry, extremism and fanaticism, and underlined in this connection the importance of combating deviant ideology using all available means, besides developing educational curricula that firmly establish the values of understanding, tolerance, dialogue and multilateralism in accordance with the tenets of Islam.

The Conference stressed that dialogue among civilizations based on mutual respect, understanding and equality between people, is a prerequisite for establishing a world marked by tolerance, cooperation, peace and confidence among nations.

The Conference called for combating pseudo-religious and sectarian extremism, and for the need to refrain from accusing followers of Islamic schools of heresy, and reaffirmed the need to deepen dialogue and promote restraint, moderation and tolerance and issuance of Fatwas by those not eligible to issue them.

The Conference underlined the importance of reforming the Islamic Fiqh Academy such as to make it the jurisprudential authority of the Ummah.

## II. In the Political Field

The Conference stressed the importance of the question of Palestine as the central cause of the Muslim Ummah. The ending of the Israeli occupation of the Arab and Palestinian territories occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem, the Syrian Golan and the remaining occupied Lebanese territories in compliance with Security Council Resolution 425, constitutes a vital request for the entire Muslim Ummah. This question should unify the Muslim position regarding the comprehensive settlement of the question of Palestine in accordance with the United Nations resolutions, the Arab Peace Initiative and the Roadmap. Efforts should be made to regain the city of Al-Quds, safeguard its Islamic and historical character, preserve and protect Al-Aqsa Mosque and other sacred sites, counter the judaization of the Holy City, support the Palestinian institutions in the city, and establish Al-Aqsa University in the city of Al-Quds. It Conference called for support to the Waqf of Al-Quds Fund with each Muslim individual contributing one dollar, besides contributions by Member States in order to preserve the holy sites in the city of Al-Quds, including in particular Al-Aqsa Mosque, safeguard the sacred city's cultural and historic landmarks and Arab-Islamic identity, and strengthen the steadfastness of its population so that it may regain its character as a city of coexistence and tolerance and the capital of the State of Palestine. The Conference reiterated working hand in hand with the international community to cease and dismantle settlements in the occupied territories. It also called for a halt in the building of the Separation Wall and its demolition in accordance with the Opinion of the International Court of Justice.

The Summit Conference discussed the developments in Iraq and welcomed the Arab Initiative for National Accord among the Iraqi parties, and hoped that the forthcoming legislative elections would lead to a constitutional Iraqi government so as to safeguard the country's unity and territorial integrity to ensure peace, security, stability and enable the brotherly Iraq to play its civilizational role on the Arab, Islamic and international arenas and condemned the terrorist violence faced by the Iraqi people. It supported the political process and the completion of building constitutional institutions as well as Iraqi reconstruction. The Conference further stressed the importance of the role of the UN in Iraq in cooperation with the OIC.

The Conference extended its support to the people of Jammu and Kashmir for their inalienable right to self-determination in accordance with the relevant UN resolutions and the aspirations of the Kashmiri people. It called for respect of the human rights of the Kashmiri people and agreed to provide all possible political and diplomatic support to the true representatives of the Kashmiri people in their struggle against foreign occupation.

The Conference expressed its firm determination to act in solidarity with the Muslim Turkish Cypriot people and their rightful cause, through supporting the efforts within the UN framework to find a comprehensive, fair and lasting settlement of the problem on the basis of political equality, as well as through taking concrete steps towards the elimination of all restrictions isolating the Turkish Cypriots.

The Conference again welcomed the comprehensive peace agreement in Sudan and the resolution adopted by the 10th Islamic Summit Conference regarding the creation of a Fund for the Reconstruction of War-Affected areas in Sudan, and urged Member States to effectively contribute to this Fund.

Conference reiterated its support for the Somali Government in its efforts to restore security and achieve reconstruction.

The Conference also reiterated its condemnation of the continued Armenian aggression against the sovereignty of Azerbaijan and its territorial integrity and called for complete and unconditional withdrawal from all occupied territories of Azerbaijan.

The Conference emphasized commitment to and credibility of Joint Islamic Action through implementation of Islamic resolutions, particularly as regard the display of Islamic solidarity in the face of natural disasters, etc, and countering foreign threats that jeopardize the security of any OIC Member State in a collective manner and rejected unilateral sanctions, which may be imposed against any Member State. The Conference also stressed the need to reform the OIC with a view to further energizing its institutions and enhance its role.

The Conference stressed the need to condemn terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, reject any justification for it, and declared its solidarity with Member States which have been victims of terrorism and again stated the necessity to criminalize all terrorist practices and all forms of their support, finance and instigation, considering terrorism a global phenomenon not related to any religion, race, color or country. The Conference emphasized also the importance of joining international efforts to combat this phenomenon, and to endeavor to implement the recommendations adopted by the International Counter-Terrorism Conference, held in Riyadh in 2005, including the creation of an International Center for Combating Terrorism, as well as the need to differentiate between terrorism and the legitimate resistance to foreign occupation. The Conference also stressed the need to support the efforts aimed at drawing up an International Code of Conduct for Combating Terrorism, as well as the need to hold an international conference for special session of the United Nations General Assembly to affirm international agreement on laying down a coherent strategy for combating this dangerous phenomenon.

The Conference underlined the need to collectively endeavor to reflect the noble Islamic values, counter Islamophobia, defamation of Islam and its values and desecration of Islamic holy sites, and to effectively coordinate with States as well as regional and international institutions and organizations to urge them to criminalize this phenomenon as a form of racism.

The Conference expressed its concern at rising hatred against Islam and Muslims in the world and condemned the recent incident of desecration of the image of the Holy Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) in the media of certain countries and stressed the responsibility of all governments to ensure full respect of all religions and religious symbols and the inapplicability of using the freedom of expression as a pretext to defame religions.

The Conference emphasized the importance of promoting cooperation and dialogue with non-OIC member states with Muslim communities and their true representatives to preserve their rights and continue to carefully monitor the developments.

The Conference called for considering the possibility of establishing an independent permanent body to promote human rights in Member States as well as the possibility in preparing an Islamic Charter on Human Rights in accordance with the provisions of the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam and interact with

the United Nations and other relevant international bodies. The Conference further highlighted importance of promoting women's rights and education and welcomed Turkey's offer to host the First OIC Women's Conference.

The Conference stressed the need for the media in the Muslim world to project the true and bright image of our Islamic religion, and to effectively deal with international media to attain this objective. It also called for the revitalization of the Standing Committee for Information and Culture (COMIAC) and underlined the importance of extending support to the Digital Solidarity Fund in order to develop information society in the Muslim countries.

### **III. In the Economic and Social Field**

The Conference emphasized the need to make optimal use of the human, natural and economic resources of the Muslim world in order to promote this cooperation, consider the possibility of establishing a Free Trade Area among the Member States, and accede and implement the agreements and resolutions concluded, and support the activities of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC).

The Conference stressed the need to achieve a considerable increase in intra-OIC trade, and welcomed the establishment of the Islamic Corporation for Trade Finance in response to the initiative of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques launched at the Tenth Islamic Summit Conference, calling for this institution to expeditious start its work. The Conference also called for increase in the capital of the Islamic Development Bank in order to enable it to meet the needs of Member States, and reaffirmed the vital role played by the private sector in development.

The Conference underlined the importance of cooperation in the fields of poverty alleviation, capacity building, elimination of illiteracy, and eradication of diseases and epidemics such as AIDS, Malaria and Tuberculosis and the need to mobilize the necessary resources to this end by establishing a special fund within the IDB. The Conference mandated the IDB Board of Governors to implement this proposal. With reference to the call of the United Nations Secretary General to eradicate Polio, the Conference stressed the significance of international efforts exerted in this regard, especially that OIC Member States are the most affected by the disease.

The Conference called for support to African development and the NEPAD initiative and decided to set up a Special Programme to this end. It reaffirmed commitment to the Millennium Development Goals by adopting appropriate measures to alleviate poverty in the Member States, and urged creditor States to write off the bilateral and multilateral debts of low-income Member States. The Conference also encouraged Member States' initiatives aimed at promoting economic cooperation with the rest of Member States and with the Least Developed and Low-Income States Members of the OIC.

The Conference decided to take practical steps to achieve scientific and technological development, with a view to supporting sustainable development in OIC Member States. The Conference stressed the importance of the resolutions and recommendations issued by the World Summit on the Information Society held in

Tunis, Republic of Tunisia, and called for their implementation in order to reduce the digital gap between States and achieve civilizational progress.

The Conference extended gratitude and appreciation to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for its generous hospitality and for its continuing support to the OIC and its General Secretariat. It also expressed gratitude and appreciation to the OIC Secretary General for his efforts to bring a new spirit and vision for the Organization marked by efficiency and effectiveness. It also highly commended the officials of the General Secretariat for their professionalism and excellent work and for having performed the task assigned to them with utmost dedication and in a record time. ■

7-8 December 2005

<<http://www.oic-oci.org/ex-summit/english/fc-exsumm-en.htm>>

## DOCUMENT NO. 18

### STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT OF PAKISTAN GENERAL PERVEZ MUSHARRAF AT THE THIRD EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE OIC SUMMIT

#### **The Third Session of the Extraordinary Islamic Summit Conference**

Makkah Al-Mukarramah - Kingdom Of Saudi Arabia  
5-6 Dhul Quida 1426h - (7-8 December 2005)

#### **Your Majesty,**

Khadimul Harmain Al-Sharifa In King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz,  
Chairman of the Extraordinary Islamic Summit,  
Mr. Abdullah Badawi, Chairman of the Tenth Islamic Summit,  
Excellencies, Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It is Almighty Allah's great blessing that we, the leaders of the Muslim world are congregated here at the Holy precincts of Makkah-Al-Mukaramah to put life into the Ummah. Your Majesty's invitation to your brothers and sisters to meet at the Qibla of Islam not only reflects your sagacity and hospitality, it also symbolizes the unity and integrity of the Muslim Ummah. May Almighty Allah guide us to our noble, collective endeavor towards the emancipation of the World of Islam.

I also wish to express on behalf of the Pakistani nation, our profound gratitude to all those who extended generous help and assistance to the earthquake victims of Pakistan.

#### **Your Majesty, Mr. Chairman, brothers and sisters,**

Two years ago, in 2003, at the Putrajaya OIC Summit we deliberated on the challenges confronting the Islamic world. We considered Enlightened Moderation as the way forward. A Commission of Eminent Persons from seventeen countries was thus constituted to recommend restructuring of the OIC to turn it into a dynamic and futuristic organization. It is only, and I repeat only, through such a restructuring of

the OIC that we can meet the objectives of Enlightened Moderation and the aspirations of the Muslim Ummah.

**Your Majesty, Mr. Chairman,**

Let us, for a moment, reflect back at our past, lost glory. We were the fountainhead of knowledge, civilization and moderation when most of the world was groping in the dark ages.

It was the philosophic accomplishment of Al Ghazali and Ibne Rushd which gave inspiration to later day western philosophers.

It was Ibne Seena who wrote “Al Qanoon Fil Tib” which became known as “the Canon” and used for 600 years as the standard book of medicine in the west.

It was Al Beruni who wrote an encyclopedia on medicinal plants.

It was Jabir Ibn Haiyan who laid the foundations of modern chemistry.

It was Mohammad Bin Musa Al-Khwarizmi who founded Algebra and modern mathematics.

It was Al-Zahrawi who invented a large number of surgical instruments now used in modern medicine. He is known as father of surgery.

Omar Al-Khayyam besides being a poet was a great scientist. Among his several contributions is a remarkably accurate calendar.

Even today numerous shelves of libraries in the west are filled with books written on these famous Muslim scholars. All these scholars were the products of Madrassahs of those days. It is unfortunate that most Madrassahs of today insist on restricting education to religion alone.

Where are we today? While we represent one fifth of humanity spread over 57 countries across three continents and blessed with rich and bountiful natural resources.

We are among the poorest. 17 out of us 57 are amongst the poorest in the world.

We are among the most illiterate. Our literacy level is shamefully low, in spite of the fact that Islam enjoins us to acquire knowledge from anywhere.

We are among the backward. Our level of socio economic development is dismal and indeed distressing.

We remain stuck in dire predicament, facing formidable challenges on all fronts: political, economic and intellectual. Many Islamic lands remain afflicted with conflict and violence. Most Islamic societies are struggling to evolve stable institutions for governance. Most of us remain far removed from the expanding frontiers of knowledge, education and science and technology.

Our economies remain fragile and mostly dependent on raw material production. Even the rich among us are consumers of the fruits of modernization and innovation of other advanced nations who are shaping the direction of progress and the future of our world.

Our weaknesses and vulnerabilities, external and internal, are visible. Our differences and divisions are exploited. Our failure to secure just resolution of disputes such as Palestine and Kashmir has spawned desperation, confusion and extremism. Our disappointments and frustrations have induced anger in our youth. Senseless acts of terrorism committed by a handful of misguided individuals while

claiming to act in the name of Islam has maligned our noble faith of peace, tolerance and compassion. Many of us have agonized over this painful situation.

We need to look within, we need to search our soul; Do we want to continue in our state of apathy or reshape our destiny. Clearly the choice is between getting permanently marginalized or re-emerging as a progressive society standing proudly in the comity of Nations. The answer is crystal clear: we have to breakout from this stagnation of centuries.

The options before the Ummah are two: A confrontationist course or a conciliatory course. A confrontationist course can only lead us to further destruction and deprivation. Therefore, it is in our own interest, in the interest of our emancipation for the sake of prosperity and progress of our peoples, and for the well being of our future generations, to adopt a conciliatory approach. We need to learn, acquire and assimilate knowledge in order to emancipate.

From this holy city of peace and tolerance, I appeal to all extremists in our society to see reason, and shun the path of violence, which offers no salvation and will lonely lead to more pain and more misery.

**Your Majesty and Mr. Chairman,**

Putrajaya was a summit of reflection, Makkah must be a summit of decision and action. The Commission of Eminent Persons and Makkah Conference of Scholars and Intellectuals have submitted their recommendations. These indeed are wholesome, all encompassing and futuristic. I commend the effort of the authors for their clarity and vision. Based on their recommendations, we should launch a strategy for Islamic revival and renaissance. This strategy should encompass actions at the national and Ummah levels.

Unless individual Islamic nations are politically and economically strong and stable, they cannot contribute to the Ummah's revival. At the national level it is essential for each of our governments to pursue several actions.

We should vigorously pursue good and accountable governance, designed to serve the best interest of our people.

We must promote sound macro-economic policies which can accelerate economic growth, poverty alleviation and job-creation, through public and private sector investment.

We must live up to the Quranic injunction to seek knowledge. We must promote human development, through increased investment in modern education and acquisition of scientific and technical knowledge.

We should promote full respect for human rights as enjoined by Islam, specially the rights of Women and Children.

We must condemn and reject all forces of terrorism and extremism, banning organizations which preach hate and violence. We must promote the Islamic values of tolerance and moderation.

**Your Majesty and Mr. Chairman,**

For the implementation of the strategy at the Ummah level, I first of all propose adoption of the recommendations of the Commission of Eminent Persons and the Makkah Conference of Scholars and Intellectuals in totality.

I strongly support the recommendation of the commission to restructure the Secretariat, develop a new charter and give it a new name. It is only then that the OIC will emerge with a completely new look and a dynamic face.

In restructuring the Secretariat, the Secretary General should be more substantially empowered to promote the implementation of the decisions of Summit and Foreign Ministers' conferences. The Secretariat should create departments to deal with peace and security, trade and investment within the Ummah, economic and technical assistance, science and technology, Islamic thought and inter faith dialogue. For effectively implementing all this, it will need to recruit highest quality personnel from within the Ummah, and compensate them competitively.

Within the restructured Secretariat we should institute mechanisms for conflict prevention and resolution within member states. The OIC should also be able to interact with other international and regional organizations to be able to play a proactive role in contributing towards peace and harmony in the world.

A network of centers of excellence in science and technology needs to be established for the member states. We could identify areas of specialization and pool our expertise in this vital sector. I also suggest establishment of a permanent forum of Islamic thought to provide guidance and opinion. The forum should be inclusive, bringing together enlightened scholars of mainstream schools of religious tradition and those with grasp of the present day environment. We could then harmonize religious thought within our own societies and also project its true value and essence to the outside world.

The new charter must be unambiguous in allowing full and permanent membership, only to Muslim majority countries.

**Your Majesty and Mr. Chairman,**

I am very clear that this grand vision, our dream, will remain unfulfilled unless it is fully backed by our collective will, and adequate financial resources. We must commit to subscribe .01% of our GDP which will amount to around \$ 180 million or at least .005% of our GDP which works out to be \$ 90 million (based on collective GDP of \$ 1850 billion). The poorest amongst us could be waived this subscription.

These finances will have to be banked and managed efficiently and in a transparent manner. For this the IDB will have to be linked with the OIC Secretariat. An effective mechanism for this will be required to be created.

Finally, may I suggest that we mandate the Commission of Eminent Persons to draft a new charter for the OIC and suggest a new name for it. This draft should be placed for adoption at the next Summit. Whatever Declaration we adopt today, we have a lot of work to do, we have a lot of work to do between now and the next Summit in Senegal. The Eminent Persons, Experts and Scholars will have to meet a number of times to draft Charter and select a new name for the OIC. The Foreign Ministers will have to meet several times to adopt their recommendations. Only then the recommendation will be fully mature for approval by the Summit.

**Your Majesty, Mr. Chairman, Brothers and Sisters,**

Today, we stand at crossroads of history, the decisions we take today, may forever change the destiny of our nations and immortalize this summit.

Together, with resolve, we can make the Makkah Summit into a defining moment in our endeavors for the collective good of the Islamic Ummah. We can revitalize our Organization to become an effective vehicle in the pursuit of this high objective.

Let this be our tryst with destiny. The challenge is indeed enormous, but failure is not an option.

May Allah Almighty grant us courage and the wisdom to take the right decisions.

I thank you all. ■

7-8 December 2005

<<http://www.oic-oci.org/ex-summit/english/speeches/Pakistan-speech.htm>>